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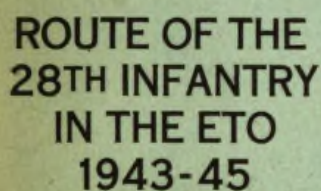
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HISTORY OF THE  
28TH INFANTRY REGIMENT





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# *History of* The 28th Infantry Regiment



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HISTORY OF THE  
28TH INFANTRY REGIMENT





# Chapter I

## Early History

The 28th Infantry Regiment was organized in 1901 at Vancouver Barracks, Washington, earned its spurs in the Philippine jungles of Mindanao, and added to its laurels during World War I in the forests of Cantigny.

Shortly after its organization the Regiment was sent to the Philippines. For two years it remained on the Island of Mindanao, building military roads through the dense jungle and suppressing the Moros, savage inhabitants of that island. Raids and ambushes by these treacherous headhunters were a constant danger. Moros, with their bolos, crept up on lone sentinels and small groups of soldiers in the blackness of night. At dawn slashed bodies of the victims would be found. Disease followed the men of the 28th from camp to camp in the malaria-infested swamps, but in spite of hardships, they continued on their mission. Through Jolo, Pantar and Marahui the road was rushed to completion. After the Moros became pacified the 28th returned to the United States.

For the next ten years the Regiment performed ordinary garrison duties. It was stationed for a time at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and later in Texas. Little information is available of this period. Then in 1913 there were serious outbreaks along the Mexican border. President Taft ordered the Regiment to patrol the Rio Grande River. The city of Vera Cruz was seized by the United States Navy in April 1914, and later taken over by the Army. The 28th Infantry was included in this expedition until November 1914, patrolling the streets and guarding public utilities.

Rumblings of the war that was soon to engulf most of the world were already being heard from Europe. In August 1914 came Serajevo, and later the mistaken notion that America could stay out of the European war. Finally when the celebrated Zimmermann note to Mexico was published, "watchful waiting" came to an end, and Congress declared war on Germany.

Hardly had the Nation entered the war before the 28th, as a member of the 1st Infantry Division in General Pershing's American Expeditionary Forces, was on the way to France. On June 28, 1917 the Regiment arrived at the port of St. Nazaire, and early the next morning the men of Company K became the first American combat unit to set foot on European soil.

Immediately the Regiment entrained for the province of Lorraine where it began a program of rigorous training under the famous French

"Blue Devils," the 52d Battalion of Chasseurs. All through the following winter the 28th was in training, and when spring came it had been moulded into a rugged, hard-hitting combat team.

The Regiment was occupying the trenches before the city of Toul when the Germans drove a powerful salient between the British and French forces in the vicinity of Montdidier. To the American 1st Division was given the task of overcoming this dangerous drive which was aimed at the all-important Channel ports. The first American offensive of the war began near Cantigny on May 28, 1918. Fighting was vicious; the battle lasted three days. After counterattacking five times the Germans withdrew.

The American forces had gained their objective. No longer was there any doubt in the minds of our Allies about the fighting ability of the Americans. Not only was their victory a great military success; the psychological effect upon the Allied armies was tremendous. On that day the tide of battle turned in favor of the Allies. The Regiment was cited for gallantry in action by Marshal Petain, and Col. Hanson E. Ely, its commander, was promoted to brigadier general. The 28th had already made an important contribution to the complete victory that was to come.

There were more victories for the American forces—and the 28th Infantry. On July 18, 1918 the 28th, despite terrific artillery bombardment and heavy resistance, succeeded in cutting the German line of communication in the Battle of Soissons. Despite severe casualties—56 officers and 1,760 enlisted men—the Regiment's spirit remained unbroken. For three years the Germans had maintained this wedge deep within the Allied lines. Now, despite the enemy's tenacity, and in face of bitter cold and rain, the Americans smashed through.

Then came the Battle of the Argonne, a month of steady slugging in the tangled underbrush and dense thicket against a stubborn enemy. Again the Germans were driven back. There was more bloody fighting before heavily fortified Sedan; and when the Americans had fought their way into position to take the city, they stepped aside and allowed the French to march in and reclaim the prizes which they had lost to the Germans in 1871.

The war had been won, and the 28th Infantry had played no small part in the victory. To the French, no display of gratitude seemed too great as they decorated the members of the Regiment with the Fourragere. Great, too, were the casualties suffered by the men of the unit in battle. More than five thousand officers and enlisted men had been killed or wounded.

After the Armistice was signed the 28th began its triumphant entry



into Germany. Marching through the Duchy of Luxembourg, the Regiment crossed the Rhine and on December 13 entered the American bridgehead area. There it kept the "Watch on the Rhine" pending signature of the Treaty of Versailles.

Returning to the United States in September 1919 the 28th paraded in New York and Washington, and then took up its station at Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky. In 1920 the Regiment was transferred to Camp Dix, New Jersey, and in June 1922 it was moved to the state of New York. There, one battalion was stationed at Fort Niagara at Youngstown, another at Fort Ontario in Oswego. The 1st Battalion garrisoned Fort Porter near Buffalo until it reverted to inactive status in 1933.

The 28th remained in the 1st Division until October 1939 when the Army was reorganized, and the number of infantry regiments in divisions was reduced from four to three. During 1939-1940 the Regiment underwent a period of winter training in northern New York, testing skis, snowshoes and other equipment for use in cold climates. In the summer of 1940 the 1st Battalion was reactivated at Fort Niagara, and the entire Regiment was brought to peacetime strength. It then transferred to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where on July 1, 1940 it was assigned to the 8th Infantry Division along with the 13th and 34th Infantry Regiments. Later the 121st Infantry replaced the 34th.

## Chapter II

### Training For War

To recount all the events in the four years from the day the 28th joined the 8th Infantry Division to its D-day, July 4, 1944 would be simply to list the innumerable steps in the training routine of an American infantry regiment through all its phases. There occurred, however, highlights and unusual incidents during this long period of training and preparation, and these form an essential part of the history of the 28th.

Beginning in September 1941 the 8th Division, already well through its preliminary stages of training, took part in the Carolina Maneuvers. For more than three months a large proportion of the nation's armed forces was engaged in extensive operations throughout the Carolinas, and the men of the 28th took a major part in them.

Then came Pearl Harbor. The Japanese had crippled the American Pacific fleet. Packs of German submarines roamed the Atlantic, threatening installations on the east coast. For two weeks after December 7 the 28th patrolled vital areas in South Carolina.

On March 26, 1942 the 28th went on patrol along the Atlantic seaboard. Regimental headquarters was moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and remained there until June 5 when the Regiment was relieved and returned to Fort Jackson to rejoin the Division. During this time the Division had become motorized.

In September 1942 the 28th as a unit of the 8th Division began a motor march to the Tennessee Maneuvers. Two more months of war games further hardened the troops of the 28th. Then, after a brief stay in tents at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, the Division set out for its new station, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. December 1942 to March 1943 was another period of comparative calm.

In March 1943 the 8th Division moved to Camp Laguna, Arizona, for six strenuous months of desert training. During the latter part of this period the Division was de-motorized, reverting to its original status as a standard infantry division. It was also during this period of desert training that the Band of the 28th was transferred to the 65th Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Upon completion of desert training the Division returned briefly to Camp Forrest. Preparations were begun immediately for an overseas movement. Late in November the 8th Division arrived at the staging area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. Then on December 4, 1943 a convoy carrying the 8th Infantry Division sailed from New York Harbor.



## Chapter III

### Arrival In Europe

Ten days later, after an uneventful crossing except for the severe winter storms, the Division arrived at Belfast, North Ireland. Headquarters for the Regiment was established at Enniskillen, County Fermanagh. The 1st Battalion was located at Camp Breandrum, Enniskillen; the 2d Battalion at Castle-Coole, also in Enniskillen; the 3d Battalion at Crom Castle outside of Newton-Butler.

Training in North Ireland was as varied as the limited terrain permitted. Greatest emphasis was placed on small-unit tactics. There was an abundance of scouting and patrolling, with one-third of all training conducted at night. Firing of all types of infantry weapons was carried out during the entire period. A rigorous physical conditioning program was put in effect.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, visiting Enniskillen in April on a tour of inspection, witnessed a number of small-unit problems, and later reviewed the 28th. Gen. George S. Patton, Third Army commander, also inspected the troops in North Ireland. The Regiment also participated in a divisional assembly for him.

Every two weeks during the period in North Ireland the Regiment sent 3 officers and 15 enlisted men to a British training camp and received an equal number of United Kingdom troops. This was in accordance with an exchange plan worked out by military authorities of the two nations. It proved beneficial from a training standpoint, and helped to promote a better understanding among Allied soldiers.

As the time for the invasion of Europe drew near the training program was expanded to include battalion and regimental combat exercises, command post exercises, and the study of German tactics. Elementary amphibious training was given to all troops.

Then on July 1, 1944 a convoy of 4 troopships and 12 motor transports steamed out of Belfast Harbor carrying the 8th Division to the continent of Europe. On July 4, twenty-eight days after D-day for the Allied invasion of Normandy, the Regiment began debarking at Utah Beach on the Cherbourg Peninsula. Next day it assembled in the vicinity of Montebourg where final preparations for battle were made.

Allied invasion armies at this time held only a few square miles of France. Cherbourg had recently been taken, and the Germans had been driven from the northern tip of the peninsula to a point just north of La-Haye-du-Puits. From there the enemy line extended through Carentan and St. Lô eastward to Caen and the Orne River estuary. Resistance in most sectors was heavy despite Allied air superiority.

## Chapter IV

### Into The Line — First Action

On July 6 the Regiment moved to an assembly area near the town of St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte. The following morning orders were received to take over a section of the line, one kilometer south of La-Haye-du-Puits.

The plan called for the Division to attack to the south, pass through the 82d Airborne Division, and take over the center of the Corps front. The main effort of the drive was to be made in this sector.

At daylight on the morning of the 8th the 1st Battalion moved through a concealed sunken trail to the line of departure. Before the battalion arrived at the LD the enemy, anticipating action in this sector, caught it with a heavy concentration of mortar and artillery fire, killing 4 and wounding 9. It was the first taste of battle for these men and they were badly shaken up. Only aggressive leadership pulled them through.

The advance was extremely difficult, and casualties were heavy. The slow advance was reported to the Regimental commander and orders came back to push forward and ask for artillery fire if it were needed. Artillery forward observers reported that the effect of fires could not be observed because of the tall hedgerows.

The first day's advance was 1500 yards. The unit on the right was unable to advance with the 1st Battalion. A strong German counter-attack was launched against our left flank, and it was necessary to call up the reserve company. While this attack was being stopped the Germans assaulted the front and here, too, were driven back. Then they tried a strong counterattack against our open right flank. When that attack ended almost 500 yards had been lost. The entire line was re-organized and the men dug in for the night. The first day's casualties were sixty-three in killed and wounded.

During the night of July 8-9 the 2d Battalion was committed on the left of the 1st Battalion. On July 9 at 0600 the two battalions attacked with Companies B and C leading the 1st Battalion, and E and F leading the 2d Battalion. The 3d Battalion remained in Regimental reserve. Progress was slow due to the greenness of the troops and their inexperience at hedgerow fighting. It was difficult to maintain wire communications because of enemy artillery fire. The attack carried about two kilometers to a point north of Le Baryville; thirty prisoners were captured. The German counterattack on its exposed right flank forced the 1st Battalion to use the 2d Battalion's area to bring up supplies.





Map 1

The Division commander continually insisted on the battalions advancing, regardless of whether or not the flanks were protected. At approximately midnight Lt. Col. Henry B. Kunzig assumed command of the Regiment.

Early in the morning of July 10 the order came down to attack at 0700. Both the 1st and 2d Battalions jumped off on time. At 0800 both battalions committed their reserve companies, holding a platoon of each company in reserve. With artillery and infantry coordinated the attack continued in the direction of Le Barville. The 79th Division on the right was informed of the location of the exposed right flank so that contact could be made. The 3d Battalion was alerted in readiness to move to protect either flank or reinforce the main attack. At

the end of the day the 1st Battalion had reached a point 1000 meters south of Le Barville, but the 2d Battalion had run into strong opposition and was held up outside of Mobecq.

Two days later the 3d Battalion, having replaced the 1st in the line, had advanced to a point south of Vesly, when their leading elements ran into extremely heavy fire from 88s. In the Company L zone Lieutenant Becker was shot and killed by a prisoner and Lieutenants Enswiler and Shull were seriously wounded by shell fire. The company became disorganized. The first sergeant, while trying to reorganize the company, was killed by machine-gun fire. The men were finally reorganized by Lieutenant Kaufman, Company M, leader of an attached mortar section, and he advanced the company 700 yards. Later that afternoon the enemy counterattacked both flanks, using tanks and infantry. A tank company which was attached to the 3d Battalion accounted for two of the enemy tanks, and Lieutenant Paluzzi got one with a bazooka. However, the battalion was forced back to its original position. Its heavy casualties included the battalion commander. The companies were disorganized due to the loss of officers and NCOs.

On the 13th of July the Regiment received orders that it would revert to Division reserve after being relieved by the 13th Infantry. The 28th had been through its first action of World War II, had reached its first objectives and suffered its first casualties. It hadn't taken much ground; the advance had been slow. The lessons learned, however, were many. Commanders and troops had become battle-wise, and hedgerows had become as familiar as the hills of Tennessee and North Ireland.



## Chapter V

### Brittany Peninsula

On July 14 Lieut. Colonel Kunzig, the Regimental commander, sent down orders for plenty of rest and a complete reorganization. Lieut. Colonel Buckley became Regimental executive, Lieut. Colonel Lacy taking command of the 2d Battalion, and Major Ward the 3d Battalion. The Regiment moved into a bivouac at Bretit, where Col. Kenneth S. Anderson took command of the Regiment.

Plans were made throughout the day of the 23d of July for the Regiment to go back into the line. This was accomplished before dark and contact was made with the 121st Infantry on the left and the 314th Infantry (79th Division) on the right. Patrolling was carried on until the 26th when orders came for an attack. The jump-off was set for 0530 of the 26th. This attack started the breakout and the great push carried up to the German border, resulting in the liberation of Paris.

The line of the Ay River, from its mouth to a point near the bridge at Lessay, was so swampy and so strongly held along its south bank as to make it impracticable for the 79th Division on the right to advance south. The bridge at Lessay was destroyed, and the only ford was so heavily mined and covered by hostile fire as to be unusable. A similar situation confronted the 90th Division on the east flank of the 8th Division and north of the swampy ground along the Seves River. The "Island" on which the village of St. Germain-sur-Seves is located was strongly held by the Germans who had beaten off several attempts by the 90th Infantry Division to capture it. On the entire VIII Corps front the only practicable ground lay on the front held by the 8th Division. Since the 79th and 90th Divisions could not advance, it remained for the 8th Division to overcome strong enemy defenses south of the gap and establish a bridgehead at least as far south as the railroad running west from Periers. When the Division established this bridgehead, it was to pass the 79th Division through the gap, then fan out to the southwest to flank the German defenses south of the Ay River in the 79th Division zone on the east. The 90th Division would similarly take advantage of the breakthrough, by-pass the "Island," and advance to the south. Therefore the entire success of the operation of the Corps depended on the ability of the 8th Division to achieve these results.

On the 26th of July the 28th Infantry jumped off and met strong resistance immediately. The enemy mortar fire was heavy and extremely accurate. He had established an OP in the tower of a church in Millieres, which commanded observation of the major portion of the Division's front. It proved very difficult to destroy this OP. Both



Corps and Division artillery fired on it for two days before it was abandoned. The 1st and 2d Battalions with two companies of tanks, two companies of tank destroyers, two platoons of AAA, and a company of engineers attached, jumped off. Heavy minefields, both Teller and antipersonnel, covered the route of advance assigned to the two battalions. Engineers were kept busy clearing paths through the minefields so the infantry could advance. The area immediately to the front of the line of departure became an inferno of lead and shrapnel. Officers and NCOs became casualties and the companies became disorganized, and it was only through the work of the remaining officers and NCOs who heroically reorganized their units under the most difficult conditions that they were able to continue on with the attack. First Sergeant Auchenbach, when all officers of Company C became casualties for the second time in two weeks, assumed command, reorganized his company and led it on.

An enemy tank attack forced the battalions to stop after an advance of about five hundred yards. In the early afternoon a coordinated attack was again launched by both battalions, and the attack moved forward fairly well. The antipersonnel minefields stopped the 2d Battalion advance considerably, but by 1900 the battalions had reached the main road running east and west between Periers and Lessay. Small islands of resistance were encountered during the afternoon, especially in the 2d Battalion zone. The 3d Battalion moved behind the leading battalion and mopped up snipers and small groups of enemy which had been by-passed by the 1st and 2d Battalions. The 1st Battalion received a counterattack at 2000 hours which the enemy supported with a few tanks. This attack died down about 2200 hours and the forward battalions established local security for the night with an outpost line along the highway. The advance that day covered more than twenty-five hundred yards.

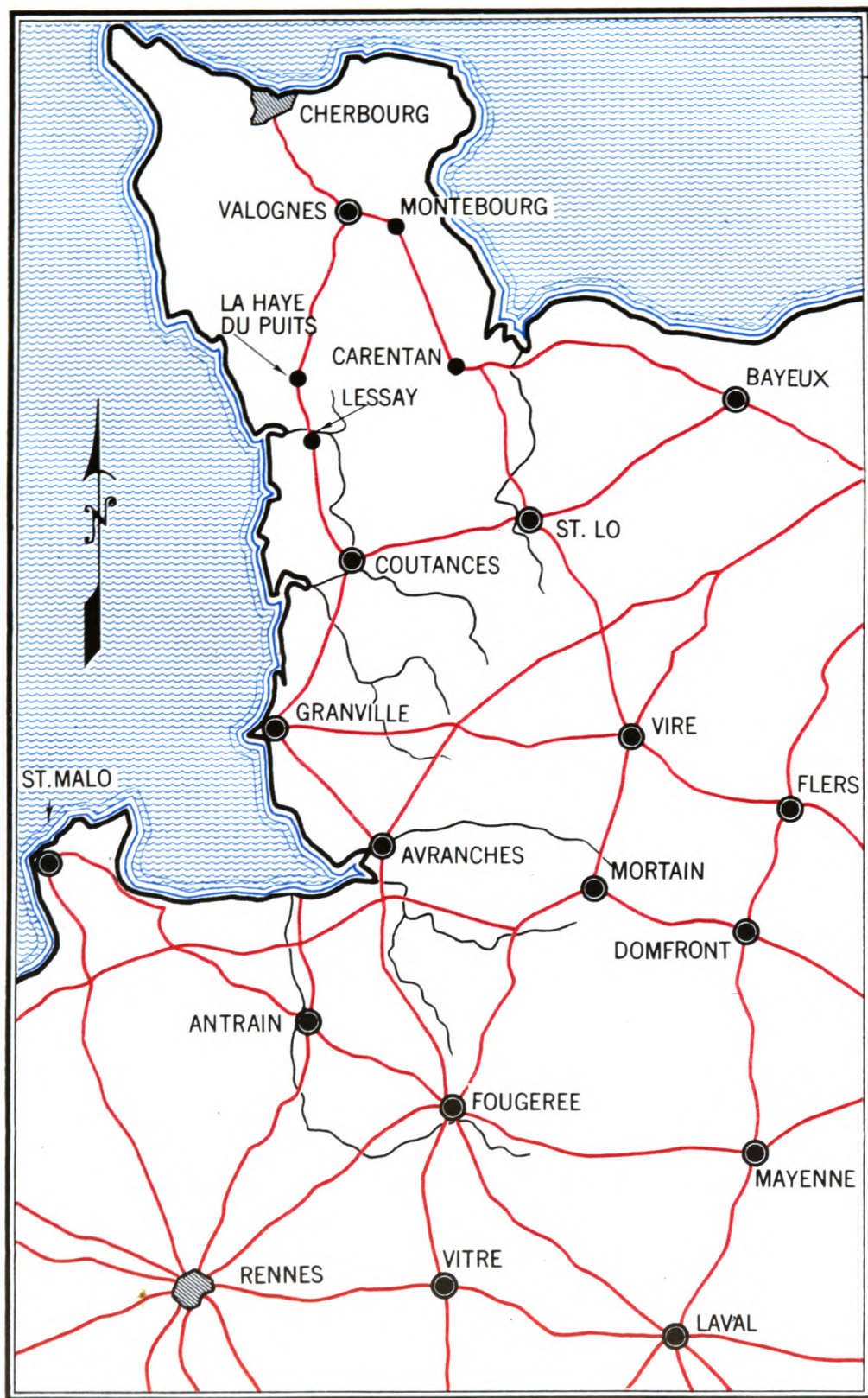
On July 27, because the 121st Infantry on the left had not advanced as far as the 28th, our Regiment was ordered to hold the lines established the day before. When the 121st made contact with the 28th on the Periers-Lessay road a coordinated attack would be launched. The 121st did not come up on this line until early afternoon, and the time for the attack was set for 1500. At that time the 1st and 2d Battalions again jumped off and by nighfall had advanced to the high ground south of Millieres. Antipersonnel mines again played a big part in slowing the advance. A few vehicles were lost to mines and the engineers worked day and night clearing the roads. The Regiment gained only three thousand yards, but its work eased the advance of the two neighboring divisions. This caused the beginning of the large-scale

retreat of the German Seventh Army. The 4th and 6th Armored Divisions were already passing through the 8th Division, and the Germans were on the run.

Resuming the attack on the morning of July 28, the Regiment advanced rapidly against light resistance until it had taken all objectives. The 1st Battalion was relieved on the line by the 3d Battalion. Enemy planes strafed and bombed the roads but did no material damage. South through Coutances and Avranches the advance continued until the Regiment had reached an assembly point two miles east of Rennes, after making overnight bivouacs at Au Pelley, Trelly, La-Haye-Pesnel, Ponts, Ducey and St. James, clearing out small pockets of resistance, and securing roadnets and vital installations along the route of march. During the period the Regiment was near Rennes the men had showers, were issued new clothes, and enjoyed a well earned rest. The 2d and 3d Battalions were ordered to block off main roads leading from the south and east and motorized patrols connected outposts. Many German supply installations were uncovered during this period, including warehouses and ammunition dumps; a number of prisoners were picked up; and much useful information was gained pertaining to German defense plans in other areas.

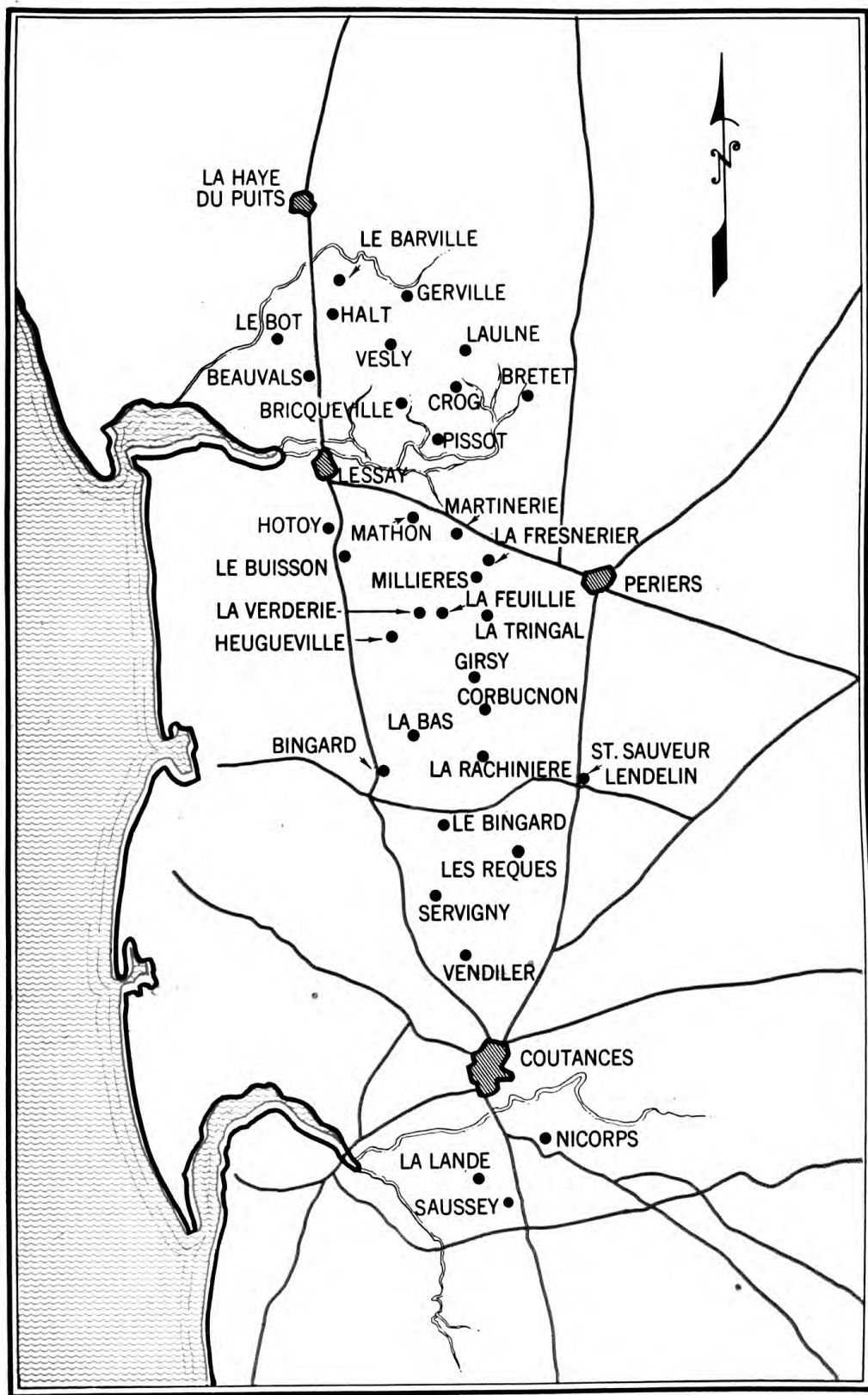
On August 8, 1944 the 1st Battalion was attached to Combat Command A of the 6th Armored Division, and ordered to the vicinity of Landivisiau on the Brittany Peninsula. At Huelgoat a guide was to meet the battalion and lead it over a comparatively safe route to Landivisiau. Upon arrival at Huelgoat no guide was found. Apparently the battalion had arrived sooner than expected. After a reasonable wait the battalion commander decided to route the battalion along back roads suggested by a Fighting French guide, as the main road was still held by the enemy. When the battalion arrived at St. Thegonnec, darkness had set in and Fighting French there reported that there were no American troops in Landivisiau but that the enemy had infiltrated into the town from the north and northeast.

The battalion bivouacked near the road and took up an all-around defense. The location was near the place where the 6th Armored Division, while attacking south toward Brest, was suddenly hit in the rear by an enemy infantry division that was attempting to fight its way into Brest. The situation was critical, but after several skirmishes during the night and early the next morning, the situation cleared and contact with the armored division was established. Prisoners taken were turned over to the armored division, and the battalion commander reported to the commanding general of the armored division for orders. The mission assigned was for the 1st Battalion to gain and



Map 2





Map 3

hold an outpost line of observation into the city of Brest while the armored division regrouped and reorganized after having fought in all directions the day of August 8. This outpost line was necessary for the further attack of the armored division on the city of Brest. The battalion proceeded with its mission, but before the armored division completely regrouped its forces, the mission of the division was changed and only Combat Command A remained in the Brest area. The battalion was ordered to fall back across the Gouesnou-Guipavas road to the airport and, as part of Combat Command A, hold the critical ground until other infantry elements of VIII Corps arrived for the attack on Brest. During this period casualties were heavy. The attack included assaulting heavily fortified positions consisting of strongpoints in concrete pillboxes that studded the area, particularly in the vicinity of the airport, the first objective of the battalion. This was a new type of warfare for the 28th Infantry and all supporting arms necessary for such type of attack were not available to the battalion. The battalion was highly commended for its action by Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow, commander of the armored division, in a letter forwarded through General Middleton, the Corps commander.

It was estimated that fifty thousand enemy troops were trapped in the Brest area, within an arc drawn tightly around the city and its port, the second largest in France. The German commander of the port, Lt. Gen. Hermann Bernhard Ramcke, was a ruthless soldier who had previously led the German airborne invasion of Crete. He was under direct orders from Adolf Hitler to hold out for at least four months, and had already refused two Allied demands to surrender. The troops under his command included three German divisions and a number of marine units and labor battalions. The defenses of the old city on the tip of the Brittany Peninsula were as formidable a series of strongpoints and obstacles as were encountered anywhere in France, and they were bolstered by numerous heavy coast defense guns which had been turned around to fire inland.

On August 14 a task force composed of the 3d Battalion plus one platoon of Cannon Company, one battery of field artillery, one company of TDs, and one company of 4.2 mortars, received orders to proceed to the vicinity of Cap de Frehal to clean up a pocket of about three hundred Germans who were reported being held there by Fighting French forces. After a few brief skirmishes in which the enemy saw that our forces were too powerful for them the Germans, totaling 293, surrendered. The remainder of the 28th Infantry less the 2d Battalion, which had been left in Rennes on guard duty, joined the 3d Battalion. The Regiment then received orders to join the 1st Battalion at Landernau. The

2d Battalion was ordered to move from Rennes to Landernau. The Regiment was together once again. Outposts were established by the 2d and 3d Battalions on the Landernau-Brest road. The 1st Battalion commander, Lt. Col. B. C. Chapla, visited the command post and gave them much valuable information on enemy positions, types of troops, and terrain features.

On August 20 the Regiment was relieved by elements of the 2d Infantry Division and moved to a new position in the center of the line. The three infantry divisions of the American VIII Corps—the 2d, 29th, and 8th—were assigned to the battle for Brest. Tremendous artillery strength was brought up to assist the attack. The Corps plan was for the three divisions to close in on the German defenders from three sides: the 2d Division attacking from the east, the 29th from the west, and the 8th making the main effort with a frontal attack from the north.

Shortly before midnight on August 24 elements of the 13th and 28th Infantry Regiments on line began infiltrating toward preliminary objectives from which the attack was to jump off. With the 2d Battalion on the right, 3d Battalion on the left, the move was made forward without encountering enemy opposition. Patrols were sent forward to make contact with the enemy but reported no enemy encountered in that area. At 1300 hours the attack began. After advancing about five hundred yards the battalions ran into heavy artillery and mortar fire and were slowed up. At the end of the day an advance of 1200 yards had been made against heavy resistance.

Enemy resistance increased during the following day and it was found necessary to commit the 1st Battalion (less Company A, which was in Regimental reserve) on the right of the 3d Battalion. They received very heavy fire on their way to the line of departure and were not able to cross it until 1750 hours that afternoon. The following day the three battalions jumped off together, but as they were unable to make any progress during the day a night attack was ordered.

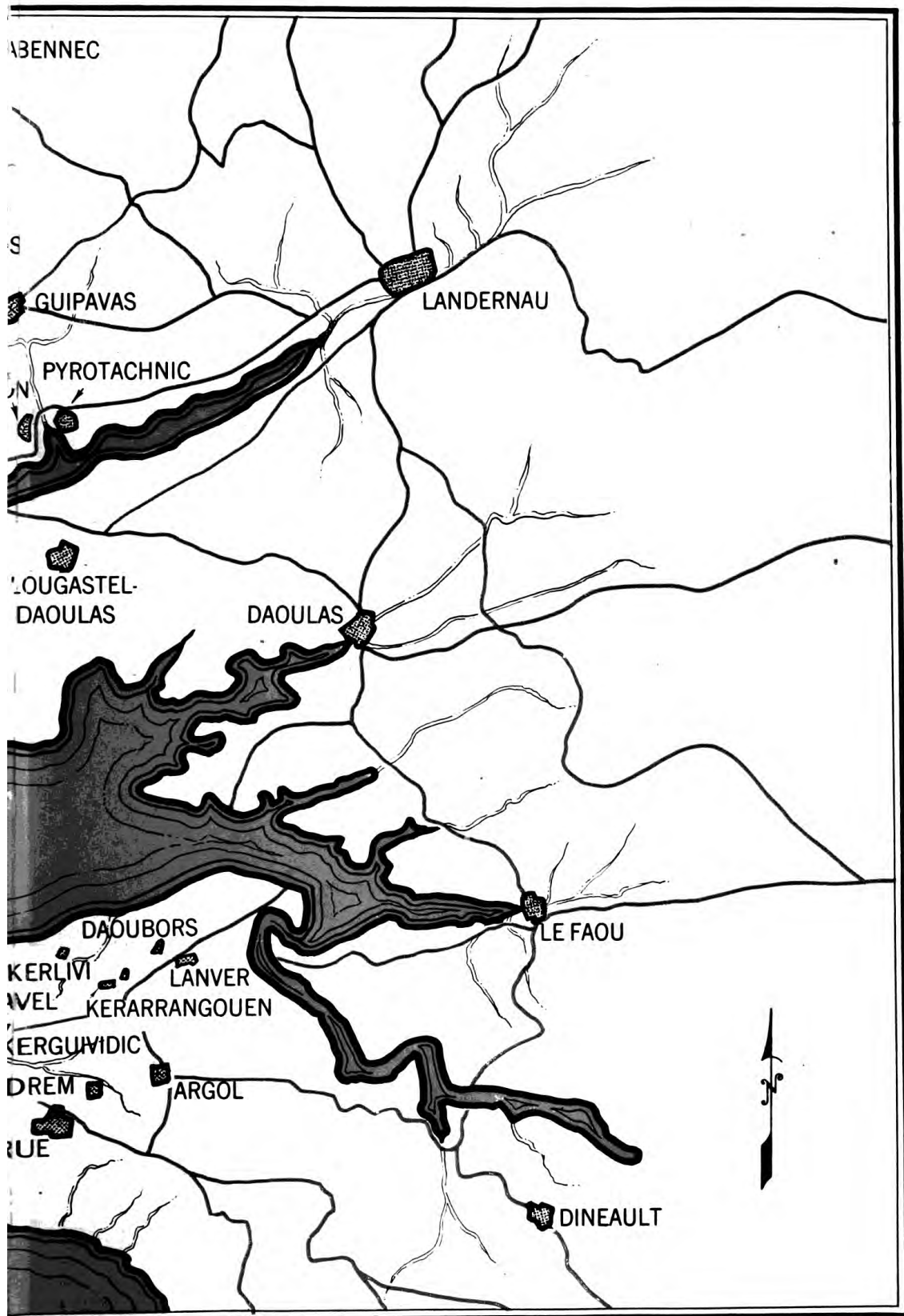
The battalions again ran into trouble. Company C was pinned down by heavy mortar and machine-gun fire; the 1st Battalion reported that they were unable to make the objective because of flares and continuous machine-gun fire.

After a slight gain the 3d Battalion was forced to withdraw to its previous position.

The 2d Battalion ran into less opposition and at 0610 hours Company G reported that it was on the objective. At 0645 hours Company E reported that it was on the objective. Patrols were sent out from Company F to contact and protect the flanks of Companies E and G. At 0720 hours word was received that Companies E and G were being







Map 4



*French civilians bring in a 4.5-cm. gun and small arms abandoned by the Germans in the retreat near Brehal, France*



fired upon from their rear by enemy who had been by-passed during the night.

The 3d Battalion reported that a captured tank was being used by the enemy and was firing on the 2d Battalion from the rear of Company G; a report of more German mechanized activity with mortar and flanking machine-gun fire came from Company G. At 0930 hours the 3d Battalion reported that a truce had been called to evacuate the dead and wounded, the truce to end at 1155 hours.

At 1220 hours communication with Companies E and G was severed and an officer patrol was sent out to investigate. An artillery forward observer reported two companies of US troops moving south toward Brest. They appeared to be prisoners and were believed to be Companies E and G, cut off and captured. The reserve company, Company A, was moved into the position initially occupied by Company G, and Company F was put into the initial position of Company E. On the following day plans were made for the relief of the 28th by the 121st Infantry. On August 31, 1944 Col. Merritt E. Olmstead assumed command of the Regiment.

Casualties suffered during this period were as follows:

	<i>Officers</i>	<i>Enlisted Men</i>
Missing in action	10	265
Wounded in action	20	398
Killed in action	6	89
Non-battle injuries	4	136

From August 31 to September 10 the Regiment remained in Division reserve. Then, less the 2d Battalion which remained in Division reserve, it moved to the vicinity of Coat-Ly-Ogan to relieve elements of the 29th Division which had made only limited gains in its sector, mainly patrolling activity and maintaining contact with the enemy. Finally on September 13 the Division was replaced by the 29th Division. On the 14th of September orders came down for the 8th to begin a move to the Crozon Peninsula.

The Crozon Peninsula was reported to be a strongly held finger of land which would menace the port of Brest and prevent its use by Allied forces, even after the port had been taken. On the Crozon Peninsula Task Force A, under command of Brig. Gen. Herbert L. Earnest, had been holding the Germans west of a line about fifteen miles from the four tips of the peninsula. The enemy forces had prepared strong defenses. Crozon was expected to be a tough nut to crack and when the Division moved into its attack position on September 14, it had attached in addition to its normal attachments Task Force A.

West of the line of departure two main ridges ran parallel to the axis of the peninsula to a point where it branched into four fingers. A stream ran between the two ridges. The 28th Infantry was given the mission of advancing along the north ridge, where an airfield near Lanveoc was expected to be stubbornly defended.

The plan of attack for the Regiment called for the attack to be made in a column of battalions: the 3d Battalion leading, followed by the 1st and 2d in that order, supported by tanks, TDs, a company of 4.2 mortars, and artillery. The 3d Battalion began to infiltrate forward from the assembly area to the line of departure, followed by the 1st Battalion, the 2d remaining in reserve. At 0800 hours the 3d Battalion jumped off under a terrific barrage laid down by our artillery and mortars. Initially very little resistance was met, with the exception of small-arms fire. By 1000 hours the 3d Battalion had advanced five hundred yards, and now ran into very effective mortar and artillery fire which slowed up the advance. The 1st Battalion, while still in the assembly area, received very heavy fire and had suffered forty-three casualties before jumping off. Progress continued slowly and the Regimental commander made plans to commit the 1st Battalion on the right of the 3d. By 1900 hours the 3d Battalion was about fifty yards from St. Efléz and completely pinned down, at which time they were ordered to dig in for the night. The 1st Battalion was ordered to infiltrate forward and take up positions on the right of the 3d. This was accomplished with few casualties and some prisoners were taken.

On the morning of September 15, after a terrific barrage by heavy and light artillery and chemical mortars, the attack began. In the zone of the 28th Infantry the 3d Battalion led the attack, and by 0930 hours it was approaching the hamlet of St. Efléz. The 3d Battalion and the 1st following it, were under heavy flanking fire from the south ridge. After all officers of Company I became casualties T/Sgt. Charles E. Ballance reorganized the company and took command of it. He was killed by a sniper the next day.

In the vicinity of St. Efléz the resistance grew so fierce that it was apparent that the main line of the enemy defenses had been reached. The battalions continued to penetrate the enemy's lines, knocking out emplacements and machine-gun nests. The flow of prisoners was continuous, and from information received from them it was believed that the enemy had no reserves. The reserve company of the 3d Battalion (Company I) was pinned down by a by-passed pocket of resistance and all efforts to eliminate the strongpoint were thrown back. The 45th Field Artillery was called on to fire on this point behind our lines and with one gun finally reduced it. However, heavy fires from the



*With eyes cocked for snipers, men of the 28th Infantry advance*



121st Infantry sector continued to pin down Company L, and this company was not able to extricate itself until darkness had fallen.

That night the enemy launched a strong counterattack against the 1st Battalion and heavy concentrations of defensive fires were placed in front of the battalion. This counterattack was held and finally driven off at 2400 hours after much hard fighting.

During the day the advance covered only 300 yards, but numerous strongpoints were reduced and 148 prisoners taken. A map found in the 3d Battalion area showing artillery positions in the Crozon Peninsula and the enemy plan of withdrawal to the north and south peninsula was of great value in formulating the battle plan for the next day.

The following day the 1st and 3d Battalions jumped off on time and pushed forward rapidly, taking quite a few prisoners right after the jumpoff. At 1300 hours the 1st Battalion reported that it was in the town of Lanveoc and was ordered to continue on. It hit strongpoint after strongpoint until it took Hill 73, where it dug in for the night. The 8th Reconnaissance Troop was attached to the Regiment and moved into position between the 1st and 3d Battalions under cover of darkness. Total casualties for the day were 140 killed and wounded, against approximately four hundred prisoners taken.

On the morning of the 18th the attack jumped off again: 8th Reconnaissance Troop leading, followed by I&R Platoon, 1st, 2d, 3d Battalions. The attack moved forward without meeting opposition. Many prisoners were taken during the day. It became apparent early in the day that the German line had collapsed and the enemy would withdraw to the north and south peninsula. The I&R Platoon reported itself at the German hospital in Le Fret. There were more than 1,500 patients in the hospital, including some Americans. From then until 2030 hours the following day, when all fighting on the Crozon Peninsula ceased, patrols were constantly sent out to maintain contact. A total of 1,460 prisoners was taken during the period.

On September 21 preparations were made for the move from the Crozon Peninsula to the vicinity of Landernau. At 1240 hours the following day the Regiment closed into the new area. The men had showers and saw a USO show. Moving pictures were shown in the evening. It was our second show and the first movie since landing.

From September 21 to 26 the order of the day called for rest, recreation—and training. On the 26th a Regimental review was held and awards were presented by the commanding general of the Division.

## Chapter VI

### The Our River And The Hürtgen Forest

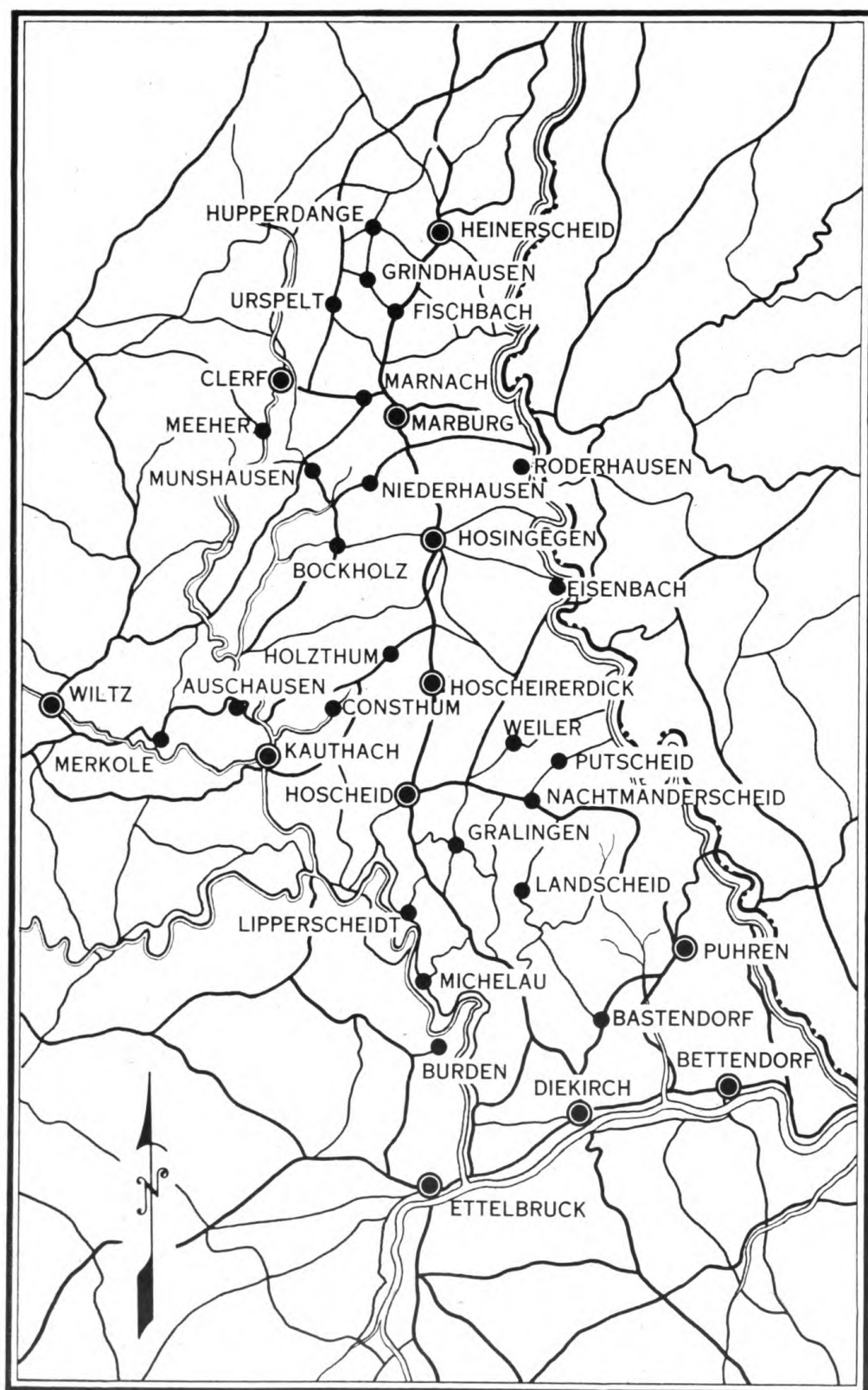
While the 8th Division was taking part in the fight to destroy the Germans trapped on the Brittany Peninsula, other Allied forces had exploited the break out of Normandy to its fullest. Caught within an Allied ring of men and steel, Von Kluge's German Seventh Army was all but annihilated by air and artillery bombardment, its scattered remnants in headlong flight across the Seine. The British Second Army, thrusting northward to the Dutch border, had trapped the bulk of the German Fifteenth Army along the Channel coast, where it was being methodically destroyed by the Canadians.

The American First Army swept into Belgium and Luxembourg, mopping up the stragglers from the disintegrating enemy units fleeing toward the German border. American Third Army troops drove eastward to the Moselle, leaving a trail of charred enemy armor, weapons, and vehicles strewn across France. From the south a new landing by the American Seventh and French First Armies cleared the Germans from most of southeastern France and developed rapidly into a drive to link up with the Third Army near the Swiss-German border.

Thousands of prisoners of war had been taken in the Allied onslaught. Most of France, Belgium and Luxembourg, and part of Holland, had been liberated. Allied armies had breached the Siegfried Line, that vaunted German border defense, and held a continuous front from the Netherlands to Switzerland. American, British, French and Canadian forces were poised for the thrust into Germany to complete the destruction of the Nazi military machine. On this front the 8th Division began the long move from the Crozon Peninsula to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on September 26. Foot troops and tracked vehicles made the journey by rail. Motorized elements moved by convoy, arriving near Ettelbrück, Luxembourg, on September 30.

The front assigned to the 8th Division was a stretch of more than twenty-three miles along the Our River, the German-Luxembourg boundary. It was divided into three general sectors. In the central sector, approximately thirty thousand yards wide, no American offensive had been undertaken. This was the sector assigned to the 28th Infantry.

The Regimental headquarters was set up in the kindergarten of the small town of Grosbuss. At 0800 hours on the 1st of October, the commanding officer took his battalion commanders on a detailed reconnaissance of the area to be occupied by the Regiment, pointing out general locations that each battalion was to move into. By 2000 hours



Map 5



that night the 1st and 3rd Battalions were in their new positions, with the 2nd Battalion in reserve. The following day Regimental headquarters was moved to the vicinity of Consthum. The Siegfried Line remained intact across its entire front, and it was anticipated that it would remain quiet, with patrols of both sides operating rather freely in a "no man's land." A long north-south ridge, approximately in the center of the area, afforded observation of the German lines and was the logical line of defense. The 28th Infantry, strongly reinforced by two companies of the 709th Tank Battalion, the 8th Reconnaissance Troop, along with a battalion of light artillery, and two companies of the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, set up a series of small outposts, connected by foot and motor patrols. The bulk of the Regiment was centrally located and maintained as a mobile reserve in event of an enemy attack.

Additional vehicles were attached to this force for greater mobility, and the terrain was thoroughly reconnoitered for the most suitable positions and routes of movement. Additional Corps artillery reinforced the Division front. Wide employment of the roving guns of the tank destroyers and, if necessary, the tanks, was to give the impression of greater artillery strength than actually existed.

By October 3 this plan was put into effect. Since the Division was essentially without a formed reserve, and because the line was thinly held, it was decided to form a provisional battalion from the administrative units. Organization of this unit was completed by October 8. Eight companies, of approximately two hundred men each, comprised the battalion. Training of this unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Henry B. Kunzig, was continued until October 20, at which time it was believed that the battalion was sufficiently trained to repel any possible enemy threat to the Division headquarters area in Wiltz, Luxembourg.

The hilly wooded terrain of Luxembourg afforded the enemy ample opportunity for infiltration, ambush, and the more treacherous methods of Nazi warfare. During daylight on October 7 a vehicle bearing Lt. Cols. Frederick J. Bailey and John P. Usher, of the 28th Infantry, was traveling well in rear of the front lines when it was stopped by what appeared to be a U. S. Army captain and sergeant, standing beside a halted American jeep. Pulling alongside, and hearing the "captain" talking wildly in German, although they wore American combat jackets and helmets, the 28th Infantry officers opened fire and killed the two men. An enemy machine gun and at least one rocket launcher opened fire from the edge of the woods. Realizing that they had driven into an ambush, the American officers dismounted and started shooting it out with the Germans. Lt. Colonel Usher was killed. Bailey continued

to fire back until the approach of a friendly infantry patrol forced the Germans to flee. The driver of his jeep had disappeared, presumably captured. Two Germans were killed in the action.

Photographs of the American-clad Germans were taken, so that this violation of international customs of warfare could be substantiated. The Division commander ordered that in the future no vehicle would go forward of the Division command post without at least two armed guards or passengers in addition to the driver. During the hours of darkness, no vehicle was to proceed beyond these limits without another vehicle following it.

Also during this period, flying bombs, the Nazi rocket-propelled terror weapons, began to fall in the 8th Division area. There were numerous reports of these projectiles flying over front-line positions. Several of them landed within the regimental installations, causing some damage but no loss of life.

Among the high military commanders who visited the 8th Division during this period in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg were Gen. George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army, and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander. General Marshall, who in World War I had served as an officer with the 28th Infantry, discussed immediate problems of the Division with Major General Stroh and his staff. Later he appeared before a group of officers and enlisted men, explaining to them the broad situation of the world battle fronts.

While visiting the Division General Marshall presented the Silver Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster to Lt. Col. (then Major) Donald R. Ward, commander of the 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry, for courageous actions on the field of battle.

General Eisenhower, accompanied by Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, 12th Army Group commander, remained with the Division long enough to pin Silver Star Medals on several members of the Regiment, join in a brief discussion with General Stroh, and chat informally with a group of enlisted men.

From time to time during this relatively quiet period minor changes in the Regimental plan were required. In the broad central sector which was the Regimental front, the 8th Reconnaissance Troop and the Reconnaissance Company of the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion had been, between them, outposting and patrolling an area approximately thirteen hundred yards wide. This required virtually all personnel to be on continuous duty. Men were beginning to show the strain of continuous contact with the enemy, so a rotation plan was worked out. Beginning on October 19, one platoon at a time was relieved. To accomplish this the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 709th

Tank Battalion was attached to Combat Team 28, which was responsible for this sector.

On October 20 the 9th Armored Division, recently assigned to the VIII Corps, moved into the area. Although the newly arrived unit was intended primarily as a Corps reserve, its elements, it was believed, could be given valuable battle indoctrination by attachment to front-line divisions of the Corps. For this reason the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron was attached to the 28th Infantry.

This made it possible to relieve the 8th Reconnaissance Troop, the Reconnaissance Company of the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and elements of the 709th Tank Battalion. The reserve battalion of the 28th Infantry, no longer needed in the southern sector of the front, moved to the town of Alsheid and held motorized for possible use to reinforce the 9th Armored Division. This arrangement remained in operation until November 9. At that time, the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron reverted to its parent unit, and the original plan for holding the Our River front was again put into effect.

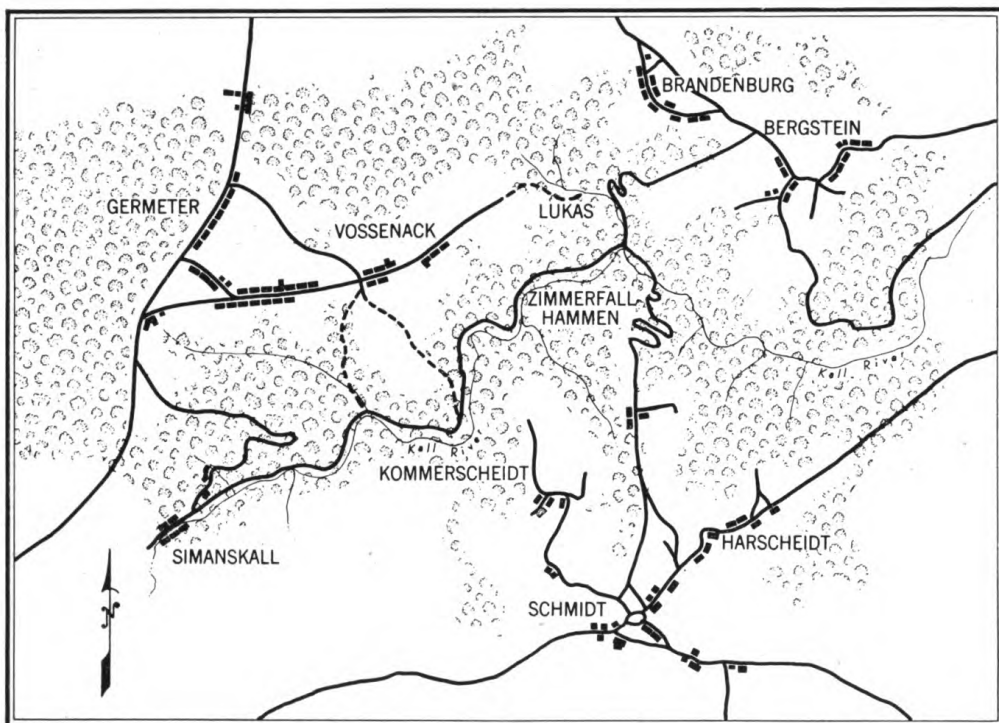
In the town of Clerf (or Clerveaux) in Luxembourg, the 8th Division established a rest camp to provide relaxation for the battle-weary front-line troops. To this pleasant village, which in postwar years had been a popular tourist center, each combat unit of the Division was permitted to send a quota of men every three days. Soldiers were given clean, comfortable rooms in the town hotels, provided with adequate recreational opportunities, and granted freedom to spend their time as they saw fit.

Here, far removed from the mud, shelling and strict discipline of the battlefield, men could renew their grip on life. Once again they knew what hot baths and showers felt like. They were served meals in dining rooms, complete with such luxuries as tablecloths and plate service. The Division Band provided concerts and jam sessions. American Red Cross girls served coffee and doughnuts. Beer was plentiful in the friendly village taverns.

While the 28th Infantry continued its holding mission on the Luxembourg-German border, a large-scale American offensive had developed in the Aachen area. The Siegfried Line had been breached, and the fortress city of Aachen was encircled by powerful First Army pinners, reduced to rubble by air and artillery bombardment, and then taken in bitter house-to-house fighting.

Large-scale German counterattacks were beaten back, and American strength rapidly built up for a renewal of the assault upon Germany. Southeast of Aachen, in the V Corps sector, the 28th Infantry Division began a limited-objective attack early in November. The plan for the





Map 6

28th Division was to take and hold the towns of Vossenack and Schmidt to the east, and to uncover the enemy defenses near Hürtgen, in preparation for a general attack in this sector by the VII Corps.

By November 3 both Vossenack and Schmidt had been taken, and a line of departure for the attack upon Hürtgen secured. So difficult was the terrain, however, that only foot troops could get through to Schmidt. There was no road between the two captured towns over which armor and antitank guns could move.

The enemy reacted promptly and violently, throwing one panzer and two infantry divisions into the counterdrive to retake the towns he had lost. Heavy artillery shelled the 28th Division positions ceaselessly. Tanks, instead of overrunning the infantry, who were well dug in, stopped short of the foxholes and fired their guns point-blank at the Doughboys.

Still unable to get armor through to the foot troops, the 28th Division was forced to withdraw from Schmidt on November 7. At one time, the Germans also recaptured half of Vossenack, but they were again driven back.

Casualties had crippled the 28th Division, and it was withdrawn. The 8th Division was transferred to the V Corps and ordered to relieve the 28th Division. The latter division took the place of the 8th as a member of the VIII Corps on the Our River front in Luxembourg.

On November 16 the troops of the Division began the motor march to the V Corps sector, and by nightfall of the 19th all elements had moved into their positions in the area southeast of Aachen. The 2d Ranger Battalion, 893d Tank Destroyer Battalion, and the 86th Chemical Battalion were attached to the Division for its new mission.

Orders had already been received from the V Corps commander to undertake an important offensive. One regiment, strongly reinforced, would break out of the Hürtgen Forest and seize the Hürtgen-Kleinhau ridge, considered by the enemy the key to his defenses west of Düren and the Cologne Plain. That this was the German belief was evident from the elaborate defenses and the strength in men and guns massed in this area. The terrain west of Hürtgen was heavily wooded, boggy and irregular, with numerous gullies and steep cliffs. German engineers had expertly laid an antipersonnel minefield almost across the entire front of the zone of advance. Heavy wire entanglements blocked possible routes of approach. Enemy automatic weapons were well sited to cover all obstacles. Mortars and artillery batteries were zeroed in upon habitable assembly areas and possible points of penetration. Enemy combat teams, all seasoned units reinforced with stragglers, were committed to the enemy defense of Hürtgen.

During the night of November 18 and the early morning of the 19th, the three battalions moved into position, relieving elements of the 109th Infantry of the 28th Division. During the relief, light casualties were suffered due to mortar and artillery fire coming from three sides. Antitank Company swapped guns with the 109th because they were in exposed positions and any undue movement immediately brought down mortar and artillery fires. This was the beginning of a two-and-a-half-month period of the roughest fighting the Regiment was to experience—the Battle of the Hürtgen Forest.

The 1st Battalion went into position on the left of Vossenack over a route which left the town through an open field and down a sharp slope for a distance of several hundred yards. At the bottom of the slope, in a location called in military language a "draw," ran a small stream. On the other side of the stream, a heavily wooded area extended down to the water's edge, the stream running between two steep slopes. This wooded area was the eastern fringe of the Hürtgen Forest. On the side of the stream nearest Vossenack the Germans had placed an extensive antipersonnel minefield. It was impossible to clear this minefield because the Germans had it under observation, and any movement during the day immediately brought down a heavy artillery barrage.

The enemy was active day and night. Over five thousand artillery





*Crew of a 57mm AT gun of Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, prepare to load their weapon near Vossenack, Germany.*



rounds fell into the area during the day of the 20th of November. The Regimental CP was shelled several times during the day and movement was kept at a minimum. While it was very evident the enemy had a great deal of artillery massed in front of the Regiment, the weather was so bad that visual observation of this artillery was out of the question. It was impossible for our artillery liaison planes to fly.

✖ It was discovered that the enemy had moved in, in strength, behind the 1st Battalion, and the supply situation became critical. It was found necessary to form carrying parties to take food, ammunition, water and other supplies at night to the 1st and 2nd Battalions. On the return trips the casualties were brought out. These carrying parties suffered heavy casualties from enemy artillery while going through the draw, and from enemy who had infiltrated in and threw hand grenades from ambush as our men passed.

✖ On November 23 Company I, under Capt. James W. Amyx, was attached to the 1st Battalion and given the mission of cleaning out the area behind the battalion. The enemy force, consisting of well over a hundred infantrymen, was strongly organized, well dug-in and expertly camouflaged. Ten machine guns gave it all-around interlocking bands of fire. An enemy artillery forward observer radio team was dug-in on high ground within the position. Six captured American mortars gave supporting fire. Teller mines placed shoulder-high in trees were connected to ground trip wires.

The company commander's attack order called for three platoons echeloned to the left rear to advance on a given azimuth. Shortly after the attack jumped off the trip wires activated the Teller mines, alerting the enemy, bringing down heavy machine-gun cross fires, and stopping the advancing platoons. The company commander with the leading platoon decided to maneuver this platoon by infiltration to the left flank. The third platoon was to act as a base of fire by firing at an increased rate. This second attack was stopped by observed mortar and artillery fire. The company commander then endeavored to maneuver all three platoons to the left supported by fire of the light machine-gun section, but once again the enemy's all-around defense pinned down the advancing riflemen.

✖ Undaunted by these setbacks, the company commander decided to deploy his entire company in a skirmish line with one platoon attacking from the left flank and two assaulting frontally. Once in position, the company commander and platoon leaders jumped to their feet and yelled, "The enemy is retreating, fix bayonets, everybody up, machine-gun fire, over the top!" The men sprang to their feet, yelling and shooting as they ran. The shock action took the enemy by surprise

and the Americans were in their midst before they could bring down their defensive fires. The ferocious bayonet assault so unnerved the enemy that they poured out of their emplacements and surrendered in groups. Over one hundred prisoners were taken, and a large number of enemy killed or wounded. The enemy artillery observer team was captured and documents taken from them revealed the exact location of 7 command posts, 6 artillery gun batteries, 3 88mm antitank guns and 2 field trains. The papers also gave information on enemy artillery strength on our front and main supply routes of all classes of supplies, as well as enemy reserve strength and probable future defense plans.

The 1st Battalion of the 13th Infantry was then attached to the 28th Infantry to clear out the rest of the area. They were to pass through Company I and use the line which Company I had taken, as their line of departure. As they were getting ready to jump off they were caught in a terrific artillery barrage and were driven back. Casualties were extremely heavy and the battalion had to reorganize. When this was completed they were ordered to jump off again, only to be caught in another artillery barrage, and again casualties were heavy. They were then withdrawn and returned to their parent unit.

Company A of the 28th Infantry was sent in the following morning to replace the 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry, and immediately ran into a dense minefield. The Regimental mine platoon was then attached to clear the minefield. In doing this they were hit hard, having only thirteen men left, but they accomplished their mission.

After the minefield was cleared Company A jumped off and almost immediately ran into heavy artillery fire. The men were forced to take to their foxholes and stay there, because of the terrific amount of shrapnel flying around the position. All units were forced to spend the remainder of that day and night under cover as the enemy artillery continued to pour it on.

On the morning of the 25th Company A moved forward into a new position after a hard battle. The heavy shelling continued and casualties were high. During all this time it was still necessary to use carrying parties to supply the 1st Battalion and casualties had to be removed on the return trip. These carrying parties were under fire during most of the time and suffered quite heavy casualties.

On November 28 the 3d Battalion, which had been occupying the line in Vossenack, was ordered to take over from the 1st Battalion and at 2035 the exchange was complete. During the time the 1st Battalion had been on the line it had taken terrific artillery fire and heavy casualties. Over thirty thousand rounds fell in the area during a ten-day period.





*Sgt. Robert C. Adams ready to fire from his camouflaged dugout in the Hurtgen Forest.*



As the units of the 3d Battalion replaced the 1st Battalion, patrols were sent out to ascertain the enemy positions. A patrol of Company L was sent out; it advanced about fifty yards when it ran into a machine-gun nest. It knocked out one machine gun but could advance no farther. All companies were up to full strength except Company I, which had suffered heavy casualties clearing out the area behind the 1st Battalion.

Later in the afternoon Company L was ordered to attack simultaneously with the 121st Infantry who were on their left, and capture Hill 50, approximately one thousand yards to their front. When Company L had attacked and accomplished its mission, Company I and Company K were moved up to secure the flank. Physical contact was maintained with the 121st Infantry on the left. During this move Company L took 18 prisoners, including 2 field artillery observers, and knocked out 4 machine guns.

The day of November 30 was spent in organizing the ground the battalion had taken. Strong patrols were sent out to determine enemy strength and positions. Heavy artillery fire continued throughout the day.

Late in the afternoon orders were received to attack and seize the high ground just west of Brandenburg. The 121st Infantry was to attack and secure the road leading into Brandenburg. The 1st and 2d Battalions of the 28th Infantry were to attack in a southeasterly direction. Combat Command Reserve of the 5th Armored Division was to attack and capture Brandenburg. The time for the coordinated attack was set for 0630 December 1, 1944. Lt. Col. (then Capt.) Clarence K. Hollingsworth was in command and the attack jumped off on time. The battalion advanced steadily in spite of withering machine-gun and heavy artillery fire.

At noon the battalion was in the draw just west of the objective. Small-arms fire became more intense and mortar and artillery fire increased. At this time a strong counterattack came up on the right flank from the zone of the battalion on the right. After a vicious fire fight the counterattack was beaten off and twenty-eight prisoners were taken.

The companies reorganized and pushed forward again at 1300 hours. They infiltrated enough men across the draw and up on the hill to build up a base of fire. Slowly but surely part of Company K made their way up the very steep hill, finally securing a foothold. They then worked the rest of the company up the hill and were on their objective by 1500.

Company L was counterattacked on the right flank and drew back. They tried to work their way up to Company K on the right flank but

were again counterattacked and drew back. Lt. Colonel Hollingsworth then decided to have them side-slip to the left flank. This time they fought their way to the objective and tied in physically with Company K. Lt. Colonel Hollingsworth, who was with the reserve company on the high ground just behind the objective, started down into the draw with Company I to join the other two companies in their objective. They were met with a furious counterattack up the draw from the right flank. The machine-gun, mortar, and artillery fire was the worst yet encountered. The 1st Platoon of Company I was completely annihilated. The company commander was killed and a platoon leader and three platoon sergeants were captured. In order to beat off this attack Capt. Edward Williamson, liaison officer with the 45th Field Artillery Battalion, laid down adjusted fire in the draw between the reserve company and the front line. The enemy suffered severe casualties and finally withdrew.

At the same time Company I was hit, front-line companies were attacked from the right front. The Germans kept calling for them to surrender, but this only made the men fight that much harder. They mowed the Germans down as they rushed the company's positions. Forty-nine prisoners were taken by Company I during this counter-attack. It was estimated that at least a hundred Germans were killed, and as many wounded. Lt. Colonel Hollingsworth decided to button up for the night as they were; communications were good and it was getting dark. The next big problem was supply and the evacuation of the wounded. Every unit except the 3d Battalion had failed to move, thus leaving both flanks exposed. The only possible route was through the mine-infested woods which was impassable to vehicles. Once more carrying parties had to be depended upon.

Ammunition and supplies were to leave the rear at approximately 1730. The carrying parties consisted of almost the entire Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion; Mortar Platoon, Company M; 12 men from Regimental Headquarters; and 20 men from Cannon Company. The guide who was to lead the carrying parties forward got lost, and it was necessary to send a patrol back from the battalion to pick them up and lead them in. The carrying parties and the patrol met at approximately 2330 hours. The supplies and ammunition were delivered to the companies at 0200 December 2, 1944. The trip was over about three thousand yards of the toughest terrain imaginable. The leading carrying parties were almost exhausted by the time they reached the front-line companies, but the wounded *had* to be gotten out. There was a total of 20 litter cases and 30 walking wounded. The carrying parties finally returned with the wounded at 0730. Nothing but sheer



*Infantrymen walk and ride tanks as they advance to the front near Bergstein, Germany.*



guts ever got them over the steep hills and through the thick woods with the litters.

The rolls and overcoats of the men in the line had been dropped in the previous area and could not be gotten up to them. Between the enemy artillery and mortar fire and the cold and rain the men up front spent one of their most miserable nights huddled together in their fox-holes.

Company A of the 1st Battalion was attached to the 3d Battalion and placed on the right to give protection on the open flank. The mission of the 3d Battalion for the following day was to assist the attack of the 1st Battalion on the right by fire only. Artillery and mortar fire was heavy. The enemy counterattacked at approximately 1000. The attack was completely repulsed, heavy casualties being inflicted on the enemy.

Supplies were again carried over the tortuous 3000-yard route by hand and the wounded evacuated by the same method. It was still raining and the temperature dropped. The men still had no rolls or overcoats. They couldn't build fires. They just gritted their teeth and held on.

On December 3, 1944 the 121st Infantry on the left started moving into Brandenburg. Company L was hit by a counterattack from its left rear. The attack was repulsed, and cost the Germans 25 killed and 5 prisoners. Late in the afternoon patrol contact was made with Combat Command R of the 5th Armored Division in Brandenburg. The 3d Battalion of the 28th Infantry was assigned the mission of cleaning out the woods just west of Brandenburg and then outposting the town. The mission was accomplished. The long supply route was again open.

On December 4, 1944 Combat Command R attacked Bergstein. The 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry, attacked at the same time across the open ground southwest of Bergstein, with only a few casualties. The battalion strength on line at this time consisted of approximately 259 men. Supplies were now taken through Brandenburg by jeep, relieving the supply and evacuation difficulties. Rolls and overcoats that could be obtained were brought up to the men but many of these coats and rolls had been ruined by direct hits from enemy artillery fire.

On December 5, 1944 the enemy launched a counterattack at Bergstein, from the direction of Schmidt, in the strength of two infantry battalions with tanks attached. Company K plus an attached machine-gun platoon of Company M were in the path of the attackers. The machine gunners and riflemen were ordered to allow the enemy to approach within twenty-five yards of their position before they opened fire. The enemy had to cross approximately three hundred yards of open ground before they came within this range. The initial burst of

fire from all weapons threw the attackers into a panic and they retreated across the open ground. The artillery caught them in the open without cover and completed the massacre. Company K knocked out a tank, took 35 prisoners, killed at least 150, and wounded many more.

Meanwhile the attack bounced off all the way up and down the battalion line. Information obtained from prisoners taken during this counterattack indicated that the ground was to be retaken regardless of the cost in German lives. They were promised the Iron Cross 3d Class and furloughs to their homes. The 3d Battalion not only annihilated the enemy but gave confidence to the CCR, 5th Armored Division, and the 2d Ranger Battalion who were on their flank.

The following two days were spent in reorganizing and preparing to attack in the direction of Schmidt.

On the night of December 8, 1944 the battalion was relieved from the line and assigned to the 13th Infantry as reserve battalion. During the relief Company K was given the mission of protecting the northeast flank of Bergstein. It was to prepare to counterattack Hill 400 which the enemy was storming continuously in an attempt to regain this dominating terrain feature.

At approximately 0200 hours, December 9, 1944 Company L was assigned the mission of supporting Company I of the 13th Infantry in clearing the gap between the 121st and Hill 400 and down to the banks of the Roer River. This action brought trials and tribulations. The enemy tried hard to regain Hill 400, but despite repeated day and night counterattacks, his efforts availed him little. Three of these were beaten off in fierce hand-to-hand combat. During this period Company L of the 28th Infantry completed all missions assigned to it and in two instances assisted units of the 13th in taking their objectives.

Between November 28, 1944, and December 16, 1944, the battalion lost more than 380 officers and men. The number of prisoners taken was 139, and it was estimated that it had killed over 700 Germans and wounded many more. For its outstanding work in the Hürtgen Forest the 3d Battalion received the Distinguished Unit Citation. The text of the citation is given in Appendix 2.

While all this had been happening to the 1st and 3d Battalions, the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry, had relieved the 2d Battalion, 109th Infantry, in a sector of the line in the woods to the right of Vossenack. Horses and carts were used to supply the front-line companies, as it was impossible to send motor vehicles into the area. This worked all right until artillery or mortar fire resumed. The horses became fright-

ened and shied away from the noise. It ended with carrying parties supplying the front-line troops. The Germans counterattacked almost daily, sometimes two and three times a day. The men had to be on the alert continuously. Enemy action combined with rain and cold and almost incessant artillery or mortar fire gave the men a miserable time. Half of the time they could leave their foxholes not at all during the day and for only a few minutes at night.

On November 29, 1944 the battalion was ordered to extend its left flank. At 0700 on the morning of the 30th, one platoon of Company E moved out and immediately ran into strong enemy positions where it was held up by heavy machine-gun, artillery and mortar fire. After our own mortars and artillery pounded the draw just north of the position, Company E attacked again and gained its objective at the cost of many casualties.

At 0700 hours December 1, 1944 Company F received orders to attack and extend the flank still farther. An artillery and mortar barrage was laid down and when it stopped Company F jumped off. It had only gone a short distance when it ran into strong enemy wire entanglements and was stopped. A patrol from Company F went out to investigate and reported that the enemy were well dug-in behind the wire and using American caliber .30 machine guns. A barrage from 155mm guns and 4.2 mortars was placed on the enemy positions but they were too well dug-in, and when the barrage lifted, Company F was still unable to advance. After several attempts it was decided to wait until morning.

The following morning two platoons of Company G were sent around through Vossenack to attack the flank. This action took the enemy by surprise and very little resistance was met. Shortly after taking the objective a radio message was received ordering the platoons to withdraw. This was done, and it was then discovered the message had been of German origin. It was then decided to infiltrate Company G back into these positions during the night. At 0400 hours on December 3, 1944 Company G moved out from Vossenack on an azimuth of 162 degrees. It advanced only a short distance before running into heavy machine-gun and mortar fire, and was stopped. A platoon of tanks was attached to the battalion and sent down to assist Company G, but because of the mud and woods tanks and infantry were unable to coordinate properly and the tanks were withdrawn.

Company F was then sent out to attack from the front; they too ran into heavy machine-gun and mortar fire. A coordinated assault was then tried but was stopped by enemy artillery. Another attack was launched later in the day, and for the first time since Normandy, the



Luftwaffe joined in by strafing and bombing our positions. This, together with the artillery and mortar fire, stopped the attack and the companies were forced to withdraw to their old positions, where they buttoned up for the night.

On the morning of December 4, 1944 Major Regan, the battalion commander, called Regiment and asked for additional help as he had a front of 1600 yards to defend and only 366 men left on the line. He stated that it was impossible to attack and make any headway with the line so thinly held. According to estimates the enemy numbered 200 and were well dug-in with plenty of machine gun, mortar and artillery support. It was then decided to attach a company of tanks and to lay down a heavy artillery barrage prior to the jump-off. This was tried and at 1515 the battalion moved out. At 1645 the objective still had not been taken and as it was getting dark the battalion was ordered to return to its old position and dig in for the night. Heavy artillery and mortar fire was laid on the enemy position all through the night.

The following morning Company G jumped off to the attack on the eastern end of Vossenack, but ran into such murderous machine-gun and small-arms fire that it was impossible to move any farther and the company was ordered to return to its old position. The tanks fired on the enemy position and in return were fired on by enemy tanks from the vicinity of Kommerscheidt. This tank duel continued for three hours with neither side making headway. Things continued about the same for the next two days.

On December 6, 1944 Col. P. D. Ginder, an attack expert from V Corps, came down to take over the battalion for this operation. The Regimental Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon and Cannon Company were attached to the 2d Battalion. This still did not solve the problem and for two days no headway was made.

On the 8th of December the 13th Infantry took over the portion of the line occupied by Company F, which went into another part of the line. This cut down the battalion front considerably. At the same time Antitank Company and Ammunition and Pioneer Platoon was put into the line with the 2d Battalion. A task force consisting of the I&R Platoon, Cannon Company, AT Company, and A&P Platoon, supported by tanks, began driving on the enemy positions. Companies E and G were hitting the left flank and Company F came in from the right. At 0815 the task force was on the objective. A strong counter-attack developed, but with the help of the tanks it was beaten off. One tank was knocked out but immediately replaced. At noon twenty-one cooks from the battalion kitchens were brought up to form a reserve. During the afternoon enemy planes again came over, strafing

and bombing. Over fifty prisoners were taken during the day. By 0900 the next morning Companies E, F, and G had tied in with the task force. The rest of the morning was spent in reorganizing and consolidating positions.

In the meantime another task force had jumped off and made good progress. At 1530 it reported itself just about surrounded by Germans, and a counterattack developed. One platoon from Company E was cut off and captured. The attack was finally repulsed with heavy casualties on both sides. On December 10, 1944 it was still the same story—attack, counterattack, and heavy casualties before objectives were reached and the flanks tied together.

On December 11, 1944 an advance party of the 311th Infantry (78th Division) arrived to look over positions. An order came down that the 2d Battalion would be relieved by elements of the 311th Infantry on December 13.

During the period November 18, 1944 to December 13, 1944 the 2d Battalion suffered over five hundred casualties, or about sixty per cent of its strength. Officer casualties were proportionately heavier, amounting to almost seventy-five per cent.

For their heroic work during this time 1st Lt. Paul W. Cowden and 1st Lt. (then T/Sgt.) William W. Mosenteen were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

On December 15, 1944, the 2d Battalion was sent back into the line to relieve the 1st Battalion, its main mission being to assist the 13th Infantry in taking its objective. By December 24 this had been accomplished and except for patrols and digging in a Regimental reserve line very little more was done. An entry dated February 8, 1945 states: "Thus ended the Battle of the Hürtgen Forest—probably the most contested spot in Germany!"



Pvt. McKinley Reed of Santa Cruz, California, looks at a snow-covered jeep which had been left by GIs during the Ardennes breakthrough.



## Chapter VII

### The Roer To The Rhine

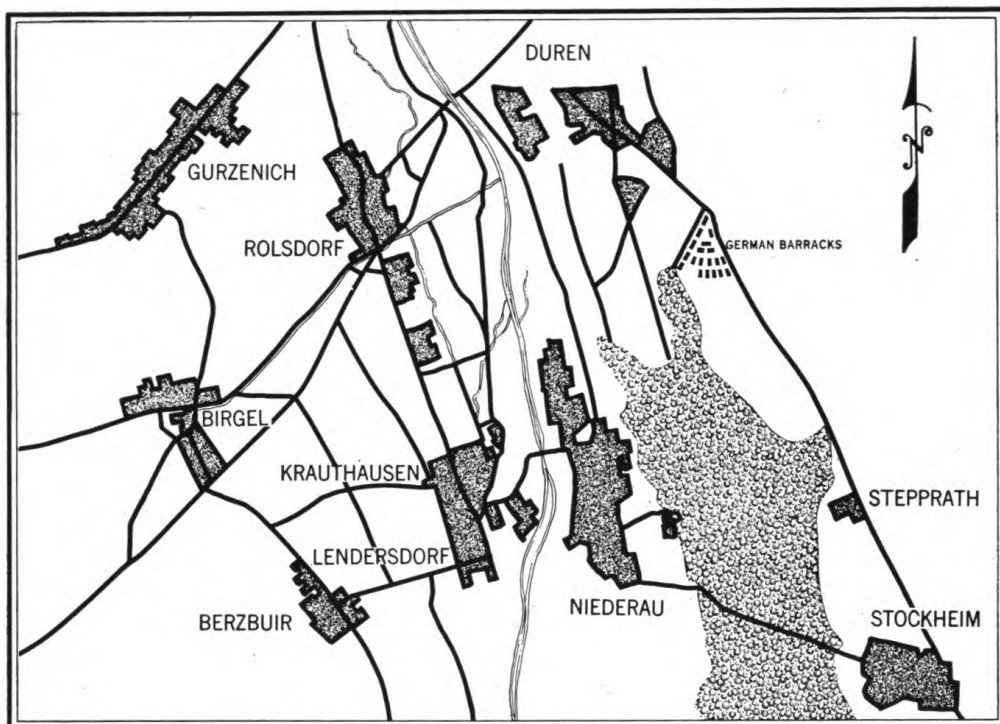
During the rest of January and February the Regiment continued its holding mission along the west bank of the Roer River. Units improved their defenses with additional minefields, barbed-wire and anti-tank obstacles. There was little enemy activity. German patrols, usually consisting of five or six men, operated intermittently in the Regimental zone. Patrol activity, however, was mostly of a defensive nature. The enemy attempted to capture American prisoners in an effort to learn Allied intentions in this area. Occasionally small enemy groups harassed the Regiment by cutting communication wires. One large patrol was driven off in the Bergstein area. Enemy mortar and artillery fire throughout the period was light. There was little air activity. Smoke was used by the Germans on several occasions, probably to cover relief of troops. Very few prisoners were taken during January. Snow capes were issued to the men, many of which were improvised from sheets requisitioned from German civilians and sewed by German women from the nearby captured towns. Some vehicles were painted white.

On February 5, 1945 the Division was assigned to the VII Corps, First Army. By February 8, 1945 all units of the Regiment had been relieved and had taken up new positions in the area formerly held by the 104th Division at Lendersdorf opposite Niederau. Along the entire west bank of the Roer River from Linnich to Bergstein, infantry and armored divisions of the First and Ninth Armies were poised to assault the major water barrier west of the Rhine. The Germans had blown the sluice-gates of the Schwammenauel Dam which contained the bulk of the headwaters of the Roer and which had been the primary objective of most Allied offensive action in this sector. The normally placid, knee-deep Roer River rose to a depth of more than ten feet in the Düren area.

On February 8 engineers were moving bridging material to forward areas. Repairs on roads were being conducted for the heavy traffic of trucks and tanks that would soon roll over them.

The 8th and 104th Divisions were to attack on the morning of February 10, 1945, seize Düren and the Corps bridgehead and draw the Germans off balance for the stronger assault by the Ninth Army to the north on the following day. On February 10, 1945 the Roer was still rising. The attack was postponed.

The Regimental front was held by the 3d Battalion while the other two battalions continued training troops in river crossings and street



Map 7

fighting. By February 15, 1945 the Roer had reached its highest point and was beginning to recede.

Meanwhile, the attack was again postponed and the Regiment continued training in river crossings with assault boats. Patrol activity across the flooded Roer was particularly hazardous since many of the enemy land mines had become inundated, making it difficult to land with safety on the eastern bank of the river. Several engineer and infantry parties had crossed the river in assault boats, although most of these operations proved more costly than practical. On the night of February 16-17, 1945 three men of the Regiment were rowed across the river by an engineer crew. They were equipped with a radio and enough food for the following day. It was planned to contact them again the next night and to return to the west bank of the river. On the following night and two succeeding nights attempts were made to reach the stranded patrol. They were unsuccessful, however, and it was presumed that the patrol had been captured.

Small enemy groups were intermittently improving their positions on the east bank of the river. Enemy air activity increased. Several formations of jet-propelled planes flew over the Regimental sector, bombing and strafing front lines and rear installations. The river, although receding steadily, was still above its normal level. The current was exceedingly fast.

D-day for the Roer crossing was again set, this time for February 23, 1945. Detailed plans were again completed. Division assault elements were to cross the river on a front of approximately seven thousand yards. The 28th Infantry was given a sector approximately four thousand yards wide, including the town of Niederau. The 1st Division on the right flank was to cross the river only after the 28th Infantry had secured its bridgehead. Consequently the 8th Division's south flank would be open. Plans called for troops of the assaulting units to cross in motor boats powered by 22- and 50-hp engines. One footbridge, one infantry support bridge, and one treadway ponton bridge were to be thrown up in the Regimental sector. In addition, a Class 40 Bailey bridge was to be erected in the 13th Infantry sector.

The Roer River had receded only slightly and was still approximately seven feet deep and flowing at a speed of about twelve miles per hour. At 0245 February 23, 1945 the heaviest artillery barrage ever fired by the 8th Division Artillery began to pound enemy river defenses and communications along the entire Roer River front. Heavy artillery batteries of the First and Ninth Armies joined in the barrage which preceded H-hour. At 0245, forty-five minutes before the scheduled jump-off of all other units, Major Edward J. Regan and his 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry, climbed into their assault boats on the extreme south flank of the Division front and pushed for the enemy-held east bank of the Roer. Men of the 12th Engineer Combat Battalion and the 3d Battalion's A&P Platoon manned the boats.

The raging 12-mph current was as hazardous a no man's land as the men of the 3d Battalion ever crossed. In spite of the fast current and the difficult east bank of the river, approximately sixty per cent of Regan's men reached the opposite shore. Companies K and L crossed in the first wave, drove quickly into a system of trenches on the opposite river bank and came out with twenty-three German prisoners, who were apparently still dazed by the tremendous artillery concentration. They did not realize yet that any Allied troops had crossed the river. Half of the Americans who survived the river crossing lost their rifles and helmets. All mortars and three of the four machine-gun sections were also lost.

Grenades were redistributed and rifles taken from the German prisoners. Major Regan led his men south of Niederau to a road fork at the edge of a patch of woods. The men of Companies K and L went all the way preceded by a rolling barrage of white phosphorus artillery shells, reaching the edge of the woods at 0430. Here they waited for Company I to join them.

The 1st and 2d Battalions of the 28th Infantry, attempting to cross



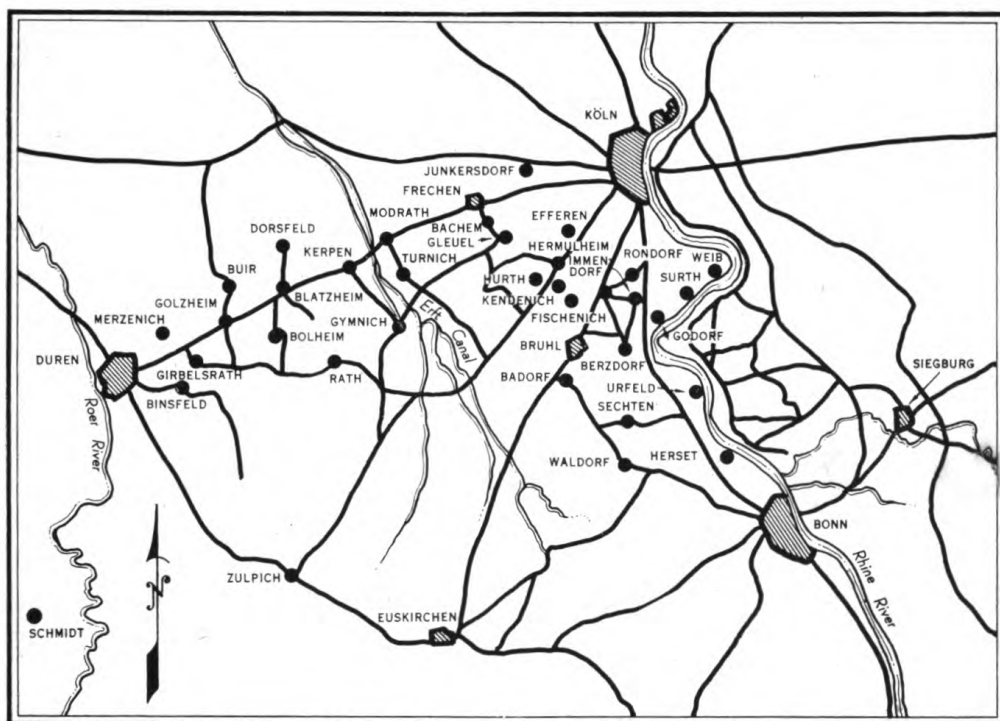
respectively 1000 and 2000 yards to the north, at 0330 encountered even more serious difficulties. Six 1st Battalion assault boats overturned in midstream and men and equipment were carried far down the river. Heavy enemy mortar and artillery fires caused many casualties. All of the motor-powered craft and seventy-five per cent of the assault boats were destroyed in the first crossing. Only elements of Companies A, B, C and F reached the east bank of the river north of Niederau, where they reorganized and prepared for offensive action.

Meanwhile Company I crossed the river and joined Companies K and L at the road fork near the edge of the woods southeast of Niederau. Troops of Companies L and K had taken nineteen more prisoners. They seized a group of Germans, surprising them while they were still in bed, capturing also a 75mm gun intact. An enemy wire party and a supply party were also captured as they were moved along the road from Stockheim to Niederau, completely unaware that American troops were in the area.

Troops of the 2d Battalion, who were to clear the southern part of Niederau and were then to relieve the 3d Battalion at the road fork, had not been able to cross the river. Major Regan received instructions by radio to move his battalion forward to the eastern edge of the woods. Although virtually isolated, the battalion began moving east through the woods along the Niederau-Stockheim road. Company L on the right ran into an enemy strongpoint. Company I moved around to the south of Company L and dug the Germans out of log bunkers. The advance was resumed, although to the south were several more bunkers which had been by-passed. The 3d Battalion reached the eastern edge of the woods by nightfall, meeting only weak resistance. Here the troops dug in. Enough German weapons had been obtained so that all the men were again armed. In one instance, when the enemy counterattacked a machine gunner allowed the Germans to come within twenty-five yards of his position before mowing them down because, as he explained, "Then the men can get the Krauts' weapons without exposing themselves." Twenty-five *Panzerfausts* (German bazookas) were taken and classes in their operation were conducted on the spot.

During the night of February 23-24, 1945 the enemy made a serious effort to knock out from the air whatever river installations the Division had been able to construct across the Roer. Jet-propelled ME-262s swooped down, repeatedly bombing and strafing the river line. Except for one ferry, which was destroyed in the 28th Infantry sector, enemy aircraft had little success.

With darkness engineers had begun work on the Class 40 Bailey bridge in the 13th Infantry sector. By 0530 the bridge was opened for



Map 8

use of foot troops and shortly thereafter vehicular traffic of all regiments started moving across to the eastern side of the Roer.

Sounds of armored movement in the Stockheim area were heard during the night from positions of the 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry. Shortly after dawn the enemy hurled the first of six counterattacks of the day against Major Regan's isolated battalion. Three tanks supported the enemy attack by a company of infantry. They came again and again from all sides and the battalion was surrounded. Then at 1355 the enemy began an all-out assault on the trapped battalion, charging in from all sides in an attempt to annihilate the American forces.

Major Regan called for the massed concentration of all Division and Corps artillery which had been planned for such a situation as this. With perfect precision the tremendous volume of fire from every gun of every battery of six field artillery battalions crashed down on all sides of the surrounded battalion. Some of the men described it as the most fearsome defensive ever. Many of the enemy were killed beneath the avalanche of shrapnel which boxed in the 3d Battalion. The enemy's counterattack was decisively broken. Only six of Major Regan's men were hit by shell fragments, although shells dropped as close as seventy-five yards from the battalion position. This, one of Major Regan's staff officers pointed out, was an unquestionable indica-

tion of the accuracy with which the battalion commander pinpointed his unit's position on the map. It was also a tribute to the perfection with which Division Artillery men planned their massed fires.

Troops of the 1st and 2d Battalions had, meanwhile, been transported. The 1st Battalion fought its way through Niederau from the north, clearing the town early in the day against only moderate resistance. The 2d Battalion passed through the southern part of Niederau and began moving through the woods to establish contact with the 3d Battalion. At 1905 that night Company E after a brisk fight reached the weary troops of the 3d Battalion, opening the way for supplies and ammunition.

Stockheim was the primary objective of the 28th Infantry troops now massed in the woods west of that town. At least six enemy SP guns fired on the troops as they emerged from the woods and advanced on the town across open ground. The 1st and 2d Battalions converged on the strongly defended town, and street fighting continued throughout the day. The enemy had to be dug out of cellars and trenches. By midnight the town of Stockheim was cleared except for a small group of buildings in the southern outskirts.

The 3d Battalion, meanwhile, had maneuvered to the north, relieving the 121st Infantry in Binsfeld at dusk, taking twelve additional prisoners out of town and then moving east to continue the attack on the towns of Binsfelderburg, Rommelsheim and Berg-Rubenheim during the night. Attacking in column of companies, the battalion took the three towns in quick succession. As our foot troops advanced on each town they called down a terrific artillery concentration. When the artillery lifted doughboys rushed the town before defending troops could come out of the cellars to man their guns. By 0500 all three towns had been taken. The prisoner count was high, 104 being captured in Berg-Rubenheim alone. Two SP guns which had eluded the 3d Battalion all night were finally captured and destroyed in Berg-Rubenheim.

Maj. Gen. William G. Weaver, the Division commander, was evacuated on February 25, 1945. Brig. Gen. Bryant E. Moore, former Assistant Division Commander of the 104th Infantry Division, took command of the 8th Infantry Division.

The 8th Reconnaissance Troop took over the town of Stockheim from the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry, on the still exposed Division right flank. The 28th Infantry, meanwhile, had moved to Bergerhausen. The 3d Battalion was given the mission of moving through the woods of Kerpen during the night and seizing a large Rhenish castle, Schloss Lorsfeld. The battalion in column of companies moved through the





*Engineers of the 8th Division prepare to sweep roads for enemy mines in war-torn Stockheim. The road leads to Duren.*

woods unobserved, until at 0100 the castle was reached. The men of Company L surrounded the centuries-old moated fortress, shot a guard, and stormed through the gates. After a brief skirmish the enemy garrison surrendered and thirty prisoners were taken. Six men of Company L were left to guard the castle while the remainder of the battalion returned to Bergerhausen.

On the night of March 1, 1945 the 2d and 3d Battalions were assigned a more hazardous mission. The battalions were to cross the Erft Canal at Götzenkirchen, a village in the 104th Division sector, which was found unoccupied by a patrol on the previous afternoon. They were then to advance south against Modrath on a two-battalion front, attacking the town in conjunction with the 121st Infantry. The crossing was made without mishap shortly after darkness. The troops swung across the water barrier on the girder of a blown bridge and moved into the thick woods east of the Erft. The 2d Battalion then moved directly south along the east bank of the canal. The 3d Battalion moved farther east, maneuvering to take the castle and small buildings at Boisdorf, from there advancing southward against Modrath.

The column of companies of the 3d Battalion had approached within 125 yards of the castle without being detected. Suddenly several explosions broke the silence; the entire column had walked into a dense minefield. The enemy was alerted and heavy small-arms fire from the castle and the woods hit the trapped infantrymen. The commanders of both Companies K and L were killed. Several other officers



*Machine gunners of Company D advance through Binsfeld, Germany.*

and men were wounded and the rest scattered. Major Regan reorganized his force as rapidly as possible. The troops of the battalion rushed the castle and took it after a fierce hand-to-hand battle. They then settled down to occupy the castle and surrounding buildings for the remainder of the night. All communication with Company I was lost until the following day. Others of the scattered troops found their way into the buildings now occupied by the battalion.

Shortly before dawn a group of soldiers was observed approaching Boisdorf. Not knowing whether they were American or German troops, Major Regan called to them to halt. They continued to advance so the battalion commander gave the signal to open fire. Some of the German troops had come so close to the buildings occupied by 3d Battalion troops that a hand grenade which dropped out of a window killed three of them. The counterattacking forces were finally driven back until they were trapped in several buildings which they had reoccupied. At dawn artillery was called down upon the enemy-held buildings, causing many casualties, until at last fifty-two Germans surrendered.

The 2d Battalion, supported by elements of the 644th TD Battalion, moved south against weak opposition and entered the northern outskirts of Modrath early on the morning of March 2. The 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry, fired into Modrath in support of the troops of the 28th Infantry, while continuing to hold its railroad embankment positions.

A tankdozer, brought up during the morning to clear the rubble blocking an underpass through the embankment, was knocked out by an enemy SP gun. Another underpass was discovered farther to the south. By noon the canal had been bridged by the engineers, and tanks



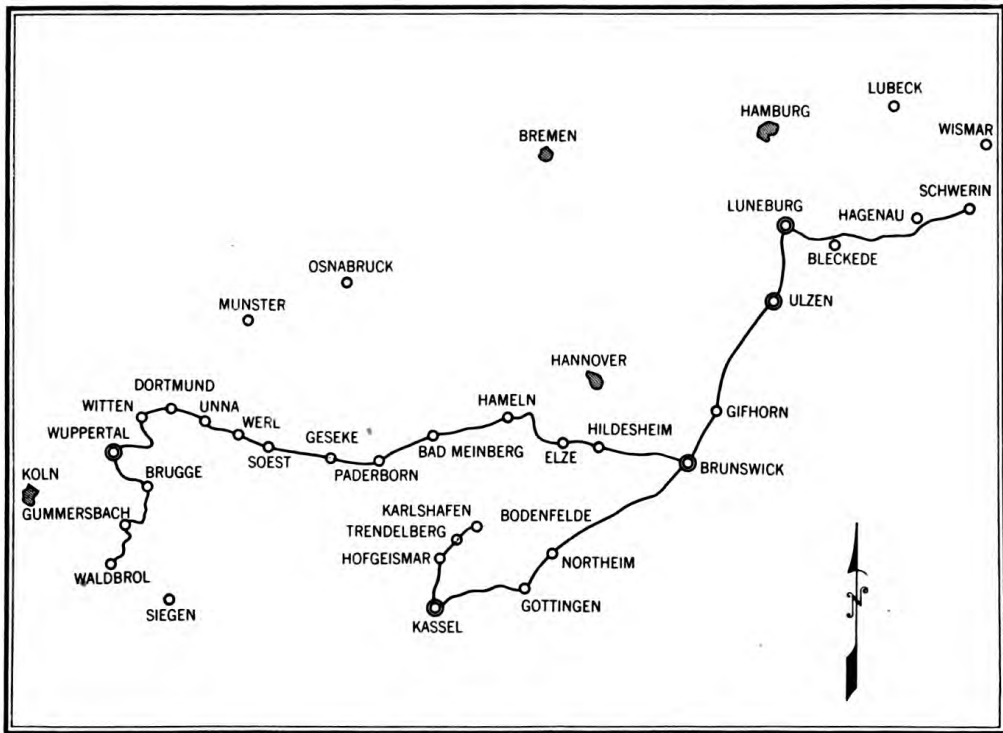
*Under German artillery fire, infantrymen in Duren seek out Nazi snipers.*

and TDs moved across. Enemy resistance was fierce when German foot troops were bolstered by SP guns, but crumbled as soon as the guns were knocked out. Artillery fire was severe. The fight continued during most of the day. With the 2d Battalion moving in from the north and 121st Infantry coming in from the west, the town was cleared before nightfall.

Simultaneously with the battle in Modrath the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, was fighting for the town of Habbelrath to the northeast. After a wide flanking maneuver during which enemy planes strafed the troops repeatedly, the battalion entered Habbelrath after daylight. Resistance in the town, particularly from SP guns, was strong. Enemy strongpoints were marked by artillery smoke shells and at 0900 an air-bombardment mission was flown against the town. The battalion's troops then moved in quickly and cleared Habbelrath by 1000. The enemy counterattacked from the southwest shortly thereafter, but was thrown back.

That night while the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry, relieved elements of the 121st Infantry in Modrath, the 1st and 3d Battalions continued the attack to the south. The 3d Battalion left Boisdorf shortly after midnight, passed through the 2d Battalion in Modrath and attacked towards Bottembroich. Company L drove beyond the town and mines to the factories southeast. As the company neared this area a terrific artillery barrage was laid down for them. At 0455 the artillery lifted and Companies K and L stormed the factory area, quickly clearing





### Map 9

the enemy from the above-ground installations and uncovering the mine-shaft leading into the earth. One guard was killed and the other two quickly surrendered. With Major Regan leading, the men of Company L climbed down seven 15-foot ladders. At the bottom they came upon an elaborate network of more than two miles of underground passages. Two hundred civilians were found living in the subterranean corridors. Among them were found ninety-one members of **the German Army**, who were quickly rounded up.

The 1st Battalion reached the northern edge of Greifrath at approximately 0300. The fire from enemy SP guns became intense. As the 1st Battalion troops came in enemy guns withdrew. The town was taken after a brisk street fight. Gains were consolidated and mopping-up in the area continued during the day. At 1930 that evening the 1st and 2d Battalions began an advance along a motor route between the network of lignite mines towards the city of Frechen, two miles south of Cologne. One hour later the 3d Battalion began a wide enveloping movement from the southwest.

Frechen was attacked from three sides. The lignite mines were a chain of huge pits approximately 50 to 100 feet deep, which honey-combed the entire area over which an advance against Frechen must move. The only routes of approach to the city were narrow causeways between the pits which could easily be defended by the Germans.

Along these causeways the three attacking forces moved. Moving into the attack, the 1st Battalion, advancing directly toward the city from the west, immediately encountered intense mortar fire. The battalion continued to advance in spite of the enemy fire, and by 2200 Company A had reached the western edge of Benzelnath. Company C, advancing astride the main road, also entered the town only to find the bridge over one of the pits along the route to Frechen had been blown.

The 2d Battalion, advancing along a much longer route, met only light resistance from enemy small-arms fire and entered Frechen shortly after midnight. The 3d Battalion infiltrated through 2000 yards of enemy-held territory before it ran into a strongpoint covering a 100-foot gap in the causeway. Unable to move to the other side of the gap without meeting intense enemy fire, the battalion spent the remainder of the night on the narrow ledge, a hundred feet from the enemy. Shortly after daylight Company L succeeded in crossing to the other side farther to the north, and took the enemy strongpoint from the flank. Enemy machine guns were emplaced in cement bunkers and covered by a series of logged emplacements manned by 12 to 15 riflemen. Fifty prisoners were taken by the men of Company L. Many of the enemy were killed and the remainder fled. The battalion then drove swiftly towards Frechen.

Meanwhile the 2d Battalion, encountering little resistance within Frechen, had cleared the entire northeast section by daybreak. Engineers had quickly constructed a bridge across the gap which was holding up the 1st Battalion at Benzelnath. The battalion then advanced through the town followed closely by the bulk of the 644th TD and 740th Tank Battalions. Resistance was strong, particularly in the Benzelnath area.

Early in the afternoon the 1st and 3d Battalions linked up, and by dark the city was completely cleared. Company B, which had been attached to the 3d Battalion during this maneuver around the southern part of the city, seized the town of Bacheim southeast of Frechen. During the night Company K cleared the factory area 1000 yards east of Frechen.

At noon on the 4th of March, Col. Thomas H. Beck assumed command of the Regiment. That night the 121st Infantry passed through the 28th and the Regiment took up the duties of guarding the open right flank.

Shortly after midnight of March 5-6, 1945 the 2d Battalion attacked and cleared Kalscheuren. The 3d Battalion then passed through the 2d Battalion and drove forward to Konraderhof, taking that town by 0130. The 3d Battalion then advanced toward Rondorf along the main

road. Four Mark IV tanks had been by-passed by the 3d Battalion. Since the men had not immediately recognized them and thinking they were our own tanks, they let them pass. Once within the column the tanks began to fire on our troops, disorganizing the battalion. Then the tanks withdrew, continuing to harass the battalion as they attempted to reorganize. A bazooka team firing on the tanks soon sent them fleeing. The battalion then reorganized and continued the movement into Rondorf.

The town fell without a fight. By the time the foot troops entered it the civilians had already gathered all rifles from the German soldiers.

The 1st Battalion going back into the line the following night, March 5-6, jumped off at midnight and quickly seized the towns of Berenrath and Knapsack in neither of which the enemy showed much will to fight.

On the night of March 6-7, 1945 the Regiment continued the attack. The 1st Battalion, advancing towards Meschenich, reached the town shortly after midnight. Resistance in the town was severe. At dawn when the town finally fell a strong counterattack supported by three tanks hit the battalion. Friendly artillery fire fell on the troops of the battalion, causing thirty casualties. The enemy counterattack was finally gotten under control and repulsed. Driving on toward Immendorf the 1st Battalion was again hit, this time by four tanks. The 3d Battalion was ordered to take the town. Smoke was placed on the town and at 1500 that afternoon the men of Company I, riding tanks of the 740th Tank Battalion, stormed Immendorf and took it within an hour at a cost of only six men wounded.

The night of March 7-8 the 3d Battalion was ordered to take Rodenkirchen on the Rhine. Moving through the 104th Division in Cologne, the battalion hit the suburbs of Rodenkirchen from the north. At the edge of the town a machine-gun nest was silenced by a grenade-throwing patrol. No further resistance was encountered. Fifty prisoners surrendered without a fight. The 3d Battalion continued driving down the west bank of the Rhine towards Weiss. That town fell at 1000 to the men of Company K on tanks, while Company L closed in on the town from the west across open terrain. Godorf, also on the Rhine, fell to the 1st Battalion during the night of March 6-7, 1945.

The next morning the 1st and 2d Battalions joined to clear Surth, mopping up enemy stragglers (including four roving SP guns) that afternoon. All organized resistance in the Division sector west of the Rhine had been overcome. Several rounds of artillery were fired at enemy barges which were carrying tanks and infantry attempting to reach the east bank of the Rhine.



## Chapter VIII

### From The Rhine—To Victory

On March 8 the Division was placed in Corps reserve. This was the first time, except for brief periods of travel from one sector to another, that the Division was not in contact with the enemy during the eight months since it first went into action on July 8, 1944. The Regiment was relieved by elements of the 104th Division and went into an assembly area.

Training and rehabilitation programs were set up and troops were given a respite from constant contact with the enemy. After six days in reserve the Division received orders to relieve the 1st Infantry Division, then holding the Rhine River line directly south of the former 8th Division sector and the 28th Infantry again faced the enemy across the Rhine.

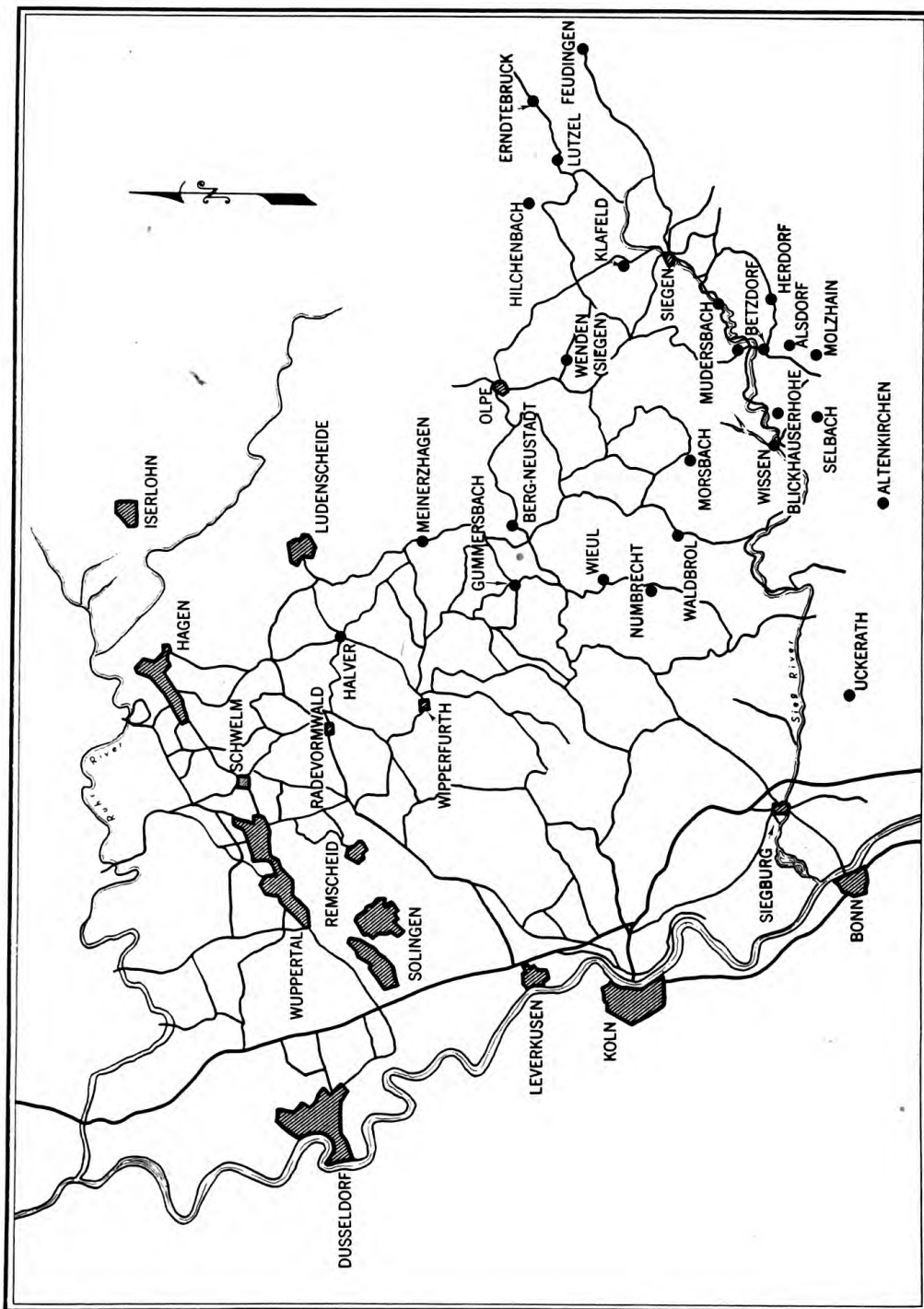
At this time major First Army efforts were directed toward enlargement of the bridgehead at Remagen on the east bank of the Rhine which had been captured intact on March 9, 1945. Constant watchfulness along the Rhine was required to frustrate any possible enemy attempts to destroy the bridge. Except for intermittent light artillery shelling and movements of individuals and small groups east of the Rhine, this was a comparatively inactive period. Small numbers of prisoners continued to be picked up, most of them stragglers and deserters.

On March 22 orders were received to relieve the 104th Division in the adjacent sector to the north. The 28th Infantry now held the sector which had originally been held by the Division. Comparative inactivity continued.

Meanwhile First Army troops had broken out of the Remagen bridgehead in a multiple thrust deep into the heart of Germany.

On the night of March 29-30, 1945 the 28th Infantry was relieved by elements of the 86th Infantry Division, recently arrived on the Continent, and along with the rest of the 8th Division the Regiment went into the trans-Rhine sector, taking up a position along the south bank of the Sieg River.

Small enemy groups scattered throughout the difficult terrain harassed attacking elements and impeded their advance. The 28th Infantry encountered only light resistance from small-arms weapons. Five towns were taken on March 30 as units of the Regiment moved north to reach the Sieg River in several places. The captured towns were: Wissen, Alsdorf, Scheuerfeld, Burche and Betzdorf. The enemy resisted fiercely in Betzdorf and Scheuerfeld with heavy small-arms,



Map 10

mortar and artillery fire. For the most part, however, resistance was disorganized and many prisoners were taken. The following day the town of Insdorf was seized and patrols sent across the Sieg River.

Reconnoitering a railroad tunnel men of the 28th Infantry discovered four cars loaded with bombs and two cars of small-arms ammunition. During the night of March 31 orders were received for the Regiment to cross the Sieg River and establish a bridgehead sufficiently wide so that the east-west road along the river could be used. The 2d Battalion crossed the Sieg River and advanced almost to the bridgehead objective. During the night one hundred enemy infantrymen crossed the Sieg River south of the 2d Battalion, temporarily cutting off two companies. These enemy troops were rounded up and Wissen was cleared for the second time. The 1st and 3d Battalions secured the high ground north of the river in their sector against moderate resistance and cleared the towns of Kirchen and Betzdorf during the night.

On the night of April 4 Company A was almost completely cut off by a strong force of enemy troops which had infiltrated behind it during the night. The enemy counterattack was finally beaten off later in the morning with the assistance of Company B.

On April 5 the Regiment was relieved by the 310th Infantry (78th Division) and in turn relieved the 8th Reconnaissance Troop and elements of the 121st Infantry on the right flank of the Division sector. This was in preparation for a full offensive to be opened on April 6, 1945.

The coordinated campaign to destroy or capture all enemy forces trapped in the Ruhr-Sieg pocket began on the morning of April 6. From the north units of the US Ninth Army were to apply pressure against the enemy in the heavy industrial area of the Ruhr River. All along the southern rim of the pocket units of the First Army were to drive north from the Sieg River. Other First Army units, driving deep into central Germany, had effectively sealed off the enemy pocket from the east.

Maj. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway's XVIII Corps (Airborne), which included at that time the 8th, 78th, and 86th Infantry Divisions and the 13th Armored Division, was to make the main effort, driving swiftly northwest to cut the pocket in two. The 78th Division on the left and the 8th Division were to begin the Corps assault.

With its three regiments abreast the 8th Division began the attack at 0600 April 6. The 28th Infantry had not fully completed its shift in position by the time set for the attack. The 3d Battalion, which had gone into the line during the preceding night, jumped off at 0300 and



cleared the town of Erndtebrück by early afternoon. One Tiger tank and two other armored vehicles were destroyed. The battalion continued its advance, taking Birkelbach after a brisk fight. The 2d Battalion joined the 3d in the attack, advancing approximately three miles. Substantial gains were made on April 8, the Regiment gaining over ten thousand yards during this day, with the 1st Battalion reaching Wurdighausen and the 2d entering Rinske.

On April 9 the 86th Division passed through the 28th Infantry and went into the attack on the Division right flank. The Regiment was given the mission of protecting the Division left flank, since advances during the day had placed the Division in advance of adjacent units.

On April 11 the 28th Infantry passed through the 13th Infantry and the rapid advance continued. Principal resistance encountered was from enemy dual-purpose 20mm antiaircraft guns, which were being used for ground fire. Gains of over ten miles were made and 2,200 prisoners captured. Among the larger towns taken during this day were Meinerzhagen, Kierspe, and Beckinghausen.

Advances up to ten miles were made on each of the following two days. Enemy forces were thoroughly disorganized and offered very little resistance. In a tunnel Regimental troops discovered three carloads of ammunition, six railroad guns, and two locomotives with steam up. So effectively had Allied fighter planes taken command of the air that trains did not risk movement during daylight hours.

Upon reaching the industrial section north and west of Schwelm enemy resistance suddenly became very strong. The enemy defense consisted of four tanks, five self-propelled guns and a number of *Panzerfausts*. Crossroads were defended by intense small-arms and automatic-weapons fire. In the towns much sniper fire was encountered. Despite the strong opposition Schwelm, Milspe, Vorde, and many smaller towns were cleared and over 2,000 prisoners taken.

During this time contact was made with the 79th Division at the Ruhr River, and the Ruhr Pocket was closed. Orders were received on April 15 to continue the offensive operations, attacking along the south bank of the Ruhr River. For this operation, Combat Command R of the 13th Armored Division was attached to the 8th Infantry Division. The westward advance began at 1000 hours, April 15, when the 121st Infantry passed through elements of the 28th Infantry.

All resistance in the Ruhr pocket ended on the morning of April 17.

Only mopping-up operations and the rounding up of remaining German soldiers, many of them in civilian clothes, remained to be accomplished.

Problems of supply and signal communication in the fast-moving

campaign were numerous. Wire crews, particularly, worked long hours to maintain communication with forward elements. On days of most rapid advance radio and liaison personnel were often the only means of communication, and the only way the Regiment had of keeping abreast of the situation.

From April 18 to April 26 the Regiment was employed in the military occupation of a section of the Ruhr-Rhine area with headquarters at Waldbrol. A number of officers and men of the Regiment were temporarily attached to the Military Government Section to facilitate administration of so large an area.

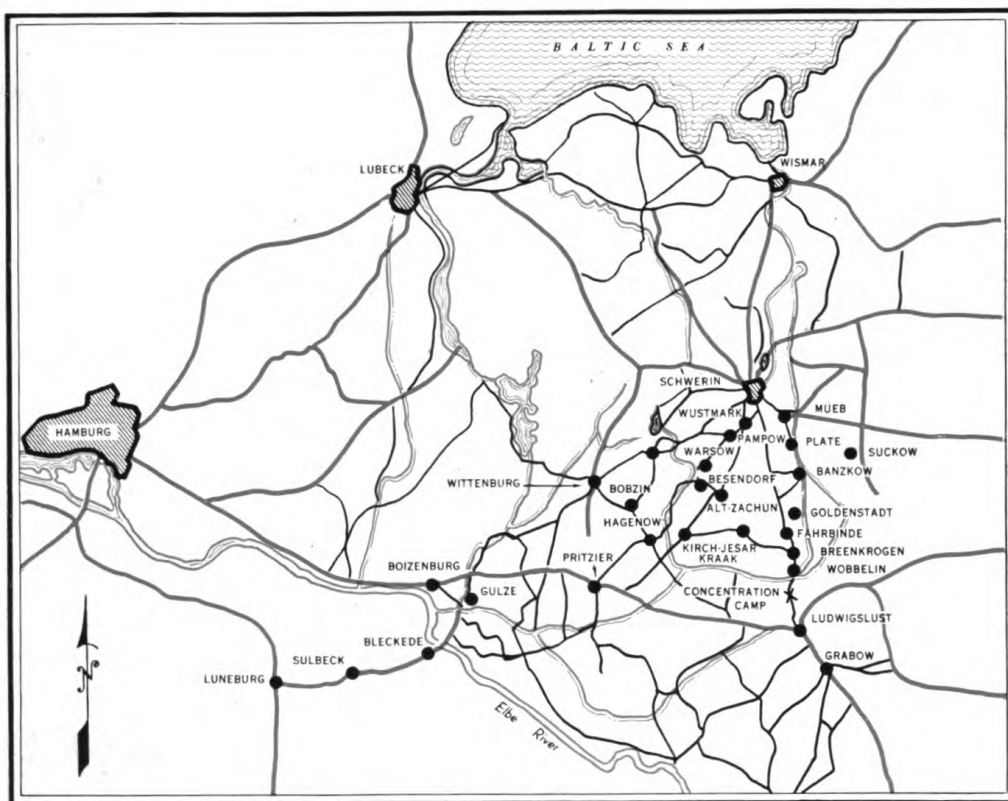
Among the chief problems of military government officials during this period was the control of displaced persons. The larger towns and cities of the Ruhr were heavily overpopulated with Russian, Polish, Italian and French slave laborers. When these areas had been cleared of German forces, displaced persons began looting and pillaging in revenge against the Germans and to obtain food and clothing. Several instances of near violence occurred in the Regimental area but in each case the situation was brought under control. Transient displaced persons were placed in camps and provided with food seized for the most part from German civilian stores.

Less than ten days after it began its mission of occupation and military government in the Ruhr-Rhine area, the 8th Division received orders for another combat mission. Still under XVIII Corps control the Division was to travel north by motor to the Luneberg area. The XVIII Corps, which included at this time also the 82d Airborne Division and 7th Armored Division, was to attack across the Elbe east of Hamburg with the primary mission of protecting the right flank of the British Second Army. British units, after crossing the Elbe northwest of the XVIII Corps, were to drive northeast to Wismar, cutting off the Danish peninsula.

On April 29 the 82d Airborne forced a crossing of the Elbe at Bleckede. During the afternoon of May 1 the 28th Infantry crossed the Elbe to join the attack, with the 8th Reconnaissance Troop attached for this operation.

British troops, who had crossed the Elbe at 0200 on the 20th of April, were advancing rapidly against weak resistance. The enemy was believed incapable of anything more than token resistance to the Allied drive. Reconnaissance flights detected a large-scale westward movement of German troops and civilians north of the British and American advance, presumably fleeing from the Russian armies.

Task Force Canham, consisting principally of the 121st Infantry Regiment, 644th Tank Destroyer and 740th Tank Battalions, supported



Map 11

by the 56th Field Artillery and 83d Armored Field Artillery Battalions, a battery of the 445th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion, Company C of the 8th Medical Battalion, Company C of the 12th Engineer Combat Battalion, Company C of the 89th Chemical Battalion, and led by the assistant Division commander, swung into the attack at 0600 May 2.

With doughboys riding tanks and tank destroyers and in trucks they started out. Initial resistance was brushed aside and the powerful 8th Division force swept northward virtually unopposed, followed as closely as possible by the 28th Infantry who gathered up by-passed enemy and cleared the woods and fields on both sides of the route used by Task Force Canham. More than a hundred cities, towns, and villages, including the large airbase and city of Hagenau, fell to the 8th Division that day. All along the route of advance large groups of enemy troops awaited arrival of American troops to whom they could surrender. Roads were jammed with steady streams of prisoners. On foot, on bicycles and horseback, in all types of horse-drawn and motor vehicles, troops of the defeated German armies were moving to the southwest. Men with their women and children, their animals and whatever worldly goods they could transport, turned in at the already overcrowded prisoner-of-war inclosures. The 7th Panzer Division, or



what was left of it, totaling 2,500 men, drove into the 28th's area in tanks to surrender.

On the following day all available troops of the Regiment were engaged in directing officers and men of the disintegrating Wehrmacht into Regimental prisoner-of-war inclosures. The convoys of motor vehicles, tractors and trailers, horse-drawn carts and columns of foot troops brought in more than 80,000 captives. Among them were ten German generals including the XXVII Corps commander and his subordinates. Captured war material reached such huge proportions that much of it wasn't even counted. Near the town of Sulsdorf a complete V-bomb assembly plant was found with over sixty V-1 bombs ready to launch, and enough nitroglycerine and ammunition to level or badly damage everything within a twenty-mile area.

The same day contact was made for the first time in that sector with the Russians. Lieut. John J. Coleman, in charge of the Mine Platoon of Antitank Company, which was attached to the 3d Battalion, was the first member of the 8th Infantry Division to contact the allies coming from the east.

Near the town of Wöbbelin in the Regimental area Capt. Frederick A. Dry, Regimental surgeon, uncovered a concentration camp where approximately 2,500 near-starved political prisoners still remained alive. These men were evacuated and cared for under supervision of the 8th Medical Battalion. Several hundred emaciated bodies of men who had been starved and beaten to death in the Wöbbelin concentration camp were unearthed and buried after funeral services in the town squares of nearby communities. The civilian population was ordered to attend the burials, and many German men and women were taken through the camp itself.

The 28th Infantry had fought its final battle in the European Theater of Operations. In ten months of combat units of the Regiment had captured over 115,000 prisoners of war and vast stores of enemy war material. The Regiment earned battle stars for its part in the Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns. More than 846 men of the Regiment had given their lives for the Allied victory; more than 4,398 had been wounded in action.



# IN MEMORIAM

S/Sgt. Abington, Tom J.  
 Sgt. Aichele, Gideon  
 2nd Lt. Alexander, Carl H.  
 S/Sgt. Alewine, Clifford A.  
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Sgt. Colpitts, Frank W.  
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Pfc. Edwards, Johnny C.  
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Pvt. Epstein, Samson M.  
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Pfc. Espinosa, Regino P.

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Pvt. Gacioch, Stephan  
Pfc. Gaiantowicz, Francis  
Pfc. Galdieri, Louis R.  
Pfc. Gallagher, Charles E.  
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Pvt. Garcia, Felix M.  
Pvt. Garza, Antonio

Pvt. Gates, Claude E.  
S/Sgt. Gause, Henry R.  
T/3 Gauss, Charles W.  
Sgt. Geisler, Charles J.  
Pvt. Gendelman, Abraham  
Pfc. Ghisolfi, Harold A.  
Pfc. Gibson, Charles D. Sr.  
Pvt. Gillespie, James E.  
Pvt. Giordano, Dominick  
1st Lt. Glogau, Donald M.  
Pvt. Goldstein, Edward ✕  
Sgt. Gomez, Leopoldo  
Pfc. Gonderman, Harry J.  
Sgt. Goodman, Leo  
S/Sgt. Goss, James J.  
Pfc. Goundry, Fred W.  
1st Lt. Goyette, Ellear R.  
Sgt. Grabowski, Leonard E.  
Pfc. Grabowski, William S.  
Pvt. Graham, Marion Jr.  
Sgt. Gray, Clydus E.  
Sgt. Gray, James B.  
S/Sgt. Green, David L.  
Pfc. Green, John E.  
S/Sgt. Green, Ralph D.  
Pfc. Greenwood, Thomas H. Jr.  
Pfc. Greller, Walter  
Sgt. Gross, Meyer  
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Pvt. Guddal, Kenneth J.  
Pfc. Gwin, Ervin L.

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1st Sgt. Haines, William H.  
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Pvt. Hammond, Curtis O.  
Pvt. Hamsher, Charles R.  
1st Lt. Harding, Edgar M.  
S/Sgt. Harper, Stanley C.  
Pvt. Harrell, James C.  
Pfc. Harris, Graham, E.  
Pvt. Hart, Delour A.  
Pfc. Harter, James E.  
Pfc. Harvey, Henry  
Pvt. Hatfield, Carl G.  
S/Sgt. Hawkins, Richard B.  
Pfc. Hayden, Everette B.  
Pfc. Hazelbaker, Joseph H.  
Pvt. Heagy, Melvin M.  
Pfc. Heil, Walter K.

Pfc. Hekiman, George H.  
Pvt. Helms, Obie F.  
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2nd Lt. Henderson, Theodore  
T/Sgt. Hendrickson, Russell  
Pfc. Henke, Merlin F.  
Pvt. Hergert, Almond H.  
Pfc. Higgins, Bert W.  
Pvt. Hilferty, Hugh A.  
Sgt. Hill, John C. Jr.  
Pfc. Hirsch, Edwin F.  
Pfc. Hoagburg, Wallace E.  
1st Lt. Hobbs, Francis K.  
Pvt. Hoffman, Elmer Jr.  
Pvt. Hogan, Harry G.  
Pfc. Holaway, Ray L.  
Pfc. Holcomb, Julius N.  
Pvt. Holdcroft, Fred W.  
Pfc. Holland, Labe R. Jr.  
S/Sgt. Holliday, Lynn  
Lt. Col. Hollingsworth, C. K.  
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Sgt. Holt, Arthur R.  
Pvt. Holt, Clarence H.  
Pvt. Hood, Perry M.  
Pfc. Hoover, John A.  
Pfc. Horn, John K.  
Pfc. Hortenbury, Curtis O.  
Sgt. Hosback, George W.  
Pfc. Hoskinson, Aloha M.  
Sgt. Houston, Roofie A.  
Cpl. Huber, Robert H.  
Pfc. Hudecek, John J.  
Pvt. Hudson, Virgil L.  
Pfc. Hug, Bernhard R. Jr.  
S/Sgt. Hughes, Albert V.  
S/Sgt. Hughes, Victor C.  
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1st Lt. Hutchenn, Frank E. Jr.  
Pfc. Hutcheson, Robert W.  
Sgt. Hutchinson, Maynard A.  
Pfc. Hutson, Aubrey G.  
  
S/Sgt. Iffert, Bernard J.  
S/Sgt. Inman, Ernest S.  
2nd Lt. Irwin, Donald F.  
  
Pfc. Jackson, John A.

Sgt. Jackson, Harold V.  
Pfc. Jarrett, Samuel P.  
Pfc. Jenkins, Charles B.  
S/Sgt. Jennings, Charles A.  
Pfc. Jensen, Henry W.  
Pvt. Jericho, Frank A.  
Pfc. Jeska, Thaddeus L.  
S/Sgt. Johns, Ralph A.  
Pfc. Johnson, Clarence D.  
Pvt. Johnson, Lewis B.  
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Pfc. Jones, Carlton P.  
Pfc. Jones, James H.  
Pfc. Jones, Murray A.  
Pfc. Judd, William H.  
Pvt. Jugel, Donald J.  
  
Pfc. Kaczan, Victor J.  
Pfc. Kaiser, Leo W.  
Pvt. Kane, William E.  
Pfc. Kardos, Joseph  
Sgt. Karman, William J.  
Pfc. Kazura, Benjamin A.  
Cpl. Keefe, Philip E.  
Pfc. Kelley, Charles O.  
Pfc. Kelley, Garrett E.  
S/Sgt. Kelley, James L.  
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S/Sgt. Kiszewski, Norbet A.  
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Pfc. Klopotoski, Frank  
S/Sgt. Knop, Walter D.  
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Pfc. Koski, Raymond N.  
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Pvt. Kozlina, Peter  
T/4 Kratzeke, William  
Pfc. Kraus, Raymond A.  
Pfc. Kreger, Lewis E.



S/Sgt. Kronk, Howard E.  
 Pfc. Krumwiede, Robert W.  
 Pvt. Krutsch, David  
 Pfc. Krysik, Lewis  
 Pfc. Kubas, Joseph B.  
 T/Sgt. Kuchazik, Rudolph  
 Pfc. Kunz, Louis R.  
 S/Sgt. Kuwik, Leonard A.  
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 Sgt. La Fountain, Eugene  
 Pfc. Landreth, Merle M.  
 Sgt. Langlois, Arthur F.  
 Pfc. Lanzarone, Frank J.  
 T/Sgt. Lauri, Louis  
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 S/Sgt. Lebak, John H.  
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 Pfc. Matthews, Richard L.  
 Pvt. Matthews, Sam Jr.  
 S/Sgt. Mattox, Frank T.  
 Pfc. Matula, John J.  
 Pfc. Matusko, Nicholas  
 Pfc. Mauldin, Harris L.  
 1st Lt. Mayes, Norris E.  
 Sgt. Mayfield, Andrew L.  
 Pvt. McAlister, Gary R.  
 Pvt. McBride, Edward F.  
 Pfc. McBrien, Thomas A.  
 Pfc. McCarty, Foye H.  
 T/Sgt. McClary, Wilford J.  
 Pfc. McClesky, Walter F.  
 Pvt. McCoart, John J.  
 Pfc. McCorkie, Walter W.  
 Pfc. McCormick, David  
 Pfc. McDonald, Carlos F.  
 Pvt. McDuffie, Doyal  
 Pvt. McElwain, Floyd L.  
 Pvt. McElwee, William T.  
 Pfc. McGarity, Marshall A.  
 Pvt. McGhee, Archie L. Jr.  
 Pvt. McGovern, James J.  
 Pfc. McGrath, Robert J.  
 T/5 McKee, John J.  
 Pvt. Meesinwo, Peter  
 Pfc. Meiggs, Andrew J.  
 Pfc. Melamed, Max  
 Pfc. Merger, Kelly  
 Pfc. Meyer, Wilbert P.  
 T/Sgt. Michalski, Alexander  
 S/Sgt. Mielcarz, Walter A.  
 Pfc. Miles, Orvil  
 Pfc. Miller, Alan I.  
 Sgt. Miller, Elmer M.

T/5 Miller, Lawrence	Pvt. Nyert, Charles
T/Sgt. Miller, Marion	Pvt. Nylund, Arthur W.
Pvt. Miller, Merlin J.	
1st Lt. Mitchell, Clyde E.	Pfc. Oakes, Berlin C.
Cpl. Mitchner, John D.	Pvt. Oiler, Charles J.
Pvt. Mocio, Edward	Pfc. O'Keefe, Francis C.
Pvt. Moden, Clayton E.	Sgt. Oliverio, Tony
Pfc. Monaco, Vito J.	1st Lt. O'Loughlin, Charles J.
Pfc. Montgomery, John G.	Sgt. O'Neill, Egar J.
Pvt. Moore, John J.	Pvt. O'Quinn, J. C.
T/5 Moorer, Marion	T/Sgt. Orr, Robert J.
Pvt. Morado, Leopold Z.	Sgt. Orr, Rodger D.
T/5 Moritz, Simon S.	Pfc. Osborne, Garnell E.
Pfc. Morris, Walter M.	Pfc. Ossio, Nick R.
T/Sgt. Morrison, Ralph F.	1st Sgt. Ostrander, Frank W.
Pfc. Morski, John W.	Pvt. Oszukowski, John
Pvt. Morton, Lincoln P.	Pvt. Ottum, David
Pfc. Morton, Paul E.	Sgt. Owen, Henry E.
Sgt. Mott, John A.	Pfc. Ozalas, Charles F.
Pfc. Mull, Roy F.	
Sgt. Mullen, John P.	Pfc. Page, Bernice E.
Pfc. Mullis, Carl H.	Pfc. Paladni, Edward E.
S/Sgt. Mumford, William C.	Pvt. Palermo, Nick J.
T/5 Mumper, John W.	Pfc. Palmer, David A. Jr.
Sgt. Munch, Robert E.	Pfc. Palonen, Sulo B.
Pfc. Munro, John E.	Pfc. Pardue, Clyde Jr.
Pfc. Muro, Lawrence M.	Pvt. Parks, Dorsey L.
Pfc. Murray, William K.	Pvt. Parker, John J.
	Pvt. Parish, Tom
Cpl. Nagrocki, Joseph F.	Pfc. Patterson, William E.
Pvt. Nash, Phillip E.	Capt. Patty, Fisher A.
Pfc. Nazarovitch, Nick	S/Sgt. Paul, John L.
Pfc. Needham, Dennis P.	Pfc. Pembroke, Harold J.
T/5 Needham, Hugh Q.	S/Sgt. Penning, Irwin H.
Sgt. Nesbit, John R.	Pfc. Perkins, William M.
Pfc. Neumann, Harry A.	Pfc. Peryea, Robert C.
Pfc. New, Glen F.	Pfc. Peter, Ernest T.
Pfc. Newkofsky, Lester	Pfc. Peterson, Roy C.
Sgt. Newman, Wilson G.	Pfc. Petruzzelo, Arthur
T/Sgt. Newsome, Linwood T.	Pfc. Phillips, Le Count W.
Pfc. Nino, Juan A.	S/Sgt. Picinich, James L.
Pfc. Nitterhouse, Ralph L.	Pvt. Pierce, Lawrence C.
Pfc. Noonan, Walter T.	Pfc. Piercefeld, Alvin L.
Pfc. Norfleet, Hollis	Pvt. Pieszchala, Peter R.
S/Sgt. Norod, Samuel A.	Pvt. Pigut, Edward A.
Pfc. Norris, William V.	T/Sgt. Pilarski, Clem
1st Lt. Northcott, George R.	Pfc. Pitts, Thomas E.
Sgt. Nossett, Frederick M.	T/Sgt. Plocki, Edward J.
Pvt. Nottingham, Dick L.	Pfc. Poehlmann, Hans
Pfc. Nunley, Hubert D.	T/Sgt. Poperwill, Robert A.

Pvt. Pozniak, Raymond T.  
Pvt. Prather, Edward F.  
Pfc. Praydich, George F.  
Pfc. Presher, Jacob  
Pvt. Price, James E. Jr.  
Pfc. Price, Leo V.

Pfc. Quijada, Ray V. Jr.

Pfc. Raether, Theodore H.  
Pfc. Ralston, Cova C.  
2nd Lt. Randall, Richard  
S/Sgt. Randles, Robert  
Pvt. Randolph, Loren J.  
T/5 Raskin, Harry  
Pvt. Raynard, Arthur P.  
Pfc. Redford, Lee R.  
Sgt. Regina, Mario A.  
Pfc. Reich, Charles F.  
1st Lt. Renzulli, Ralph J.  
Pfc. Reres, Michael F.  
T/Sgt. Rhodes, Cecil W.  
Pvt. Richter, Edward T.  
Pfc. Riley, Jon F.  
Pfc. Ritter, Curtis K.  
Pfc. Roberts, Merlin C.  
S/Sgt. Robertson, Odis O.  
T/Sgt. Robinson, Archie D.  
Pfc. Robinson, Donald M.  
Sgt. Rodgers, Lenwood  
Pvt. Rodola, Joseph Jr.  
Pfc. Roland, James T.  
T/4 Rollins, Daymont  
Pfc. Rosenbeck, John E.  
Pfc. Ross, Ben R.  
T/Sgt. Rowley, John T. Jr.  
Pfc. Rudden, Melvin D.  
Pfc. Rumolo, Carmen  
Pfc. Russell, Alfred J.  
S/Sgt. Russell, Virgil R.

Sgt. Sabatino, Ludwig L.  
Pfc. Salomoni, John  
Pfc. Samle, Charles E.  
Pvt. Sanders, John B.  
Pfc. Sardo, Jack M.  
1st Sgt. Sasiadek, Edward J.  
Pvt. Savage, Arthur P.  
Sgt. Sawdon, Wayne H.  
Pfc. Sawicki, Chester J.

Sgt. Sawyer, Edwin M.  
Pfc. Sawyer, Ormand D.  
Pvt. Scanlan, John F.  
Pvt. Scates, Burke J.  
Sgt. Schaffer, Charles F.  
T/4 Scheider, Ervin J.  
2nd Lt. Schenz, Walter D.  
Pfc. Schettino, Tony J.  
Pfc. Schneider, Charles R.  
Pfc. Schnovel, Robert J.  
Pvt. Scott, Ernest J.  
Pvt. Scott, Raymond O.  
Sgt. Scroggins, Carrol  
Sgt. Seaholm, Gunnard  
Pfc. Sedar, Nicholas  
Sgt. Seegar, Wendel S.  
S/Sgt. Seidl, Sylvan H.  
Pfc. Seivard, Robert  
Pvt. Seligman, Robert N.  
Pfc. Sessions, Donald H.  
T/5 Setdaducati, Michael  
Pfc. Shipp, Russell M.  
Pfc. Shugart, Walter  
S/Sgt. Shutter, William J.  
T/5 Sills, Merdick A.  
Pfc. Sisneros, Eduardo  
Pvt. Slis, Michael  
Sgt. Smalley, Walter G.  
Lt. Col. Smith, Edwin M.  
Pfc. Smith, Harold V. Jr.  
Pfc. Smith, Harry D.  
1st Lt. Smith, Hollis  
S/Sgt. Smith, Leon A.  
Pvt. Smith, Milton  
Pfc. Sokoloff, Fred P.  
Pfc. Soucier, Edmond F.  
Pfc. Sparks, Archie L.  
Pvt. Speck, Dalton E.  
Pfc. Spencer, John M.  
Pvt. Sperling, Herbert C.  
T/Sgt. St. Andrew, Homer  
Pvt. Stader, John W.  
Pvt. Stanfield, Oline W.  
Pvt. Staron, Chester H.  
Pvt. Steele, Nathaniel Jr.  
Pvt. Stefanik, Joseph R.  
Pfc. Stengel, Stanley  
Pvt. Stephens, Charles J.  
T/5 Stevens, Lee W.  
1st Lt. Stevenson, Edward W.



Pvt. Stidd, Gerald A.  
Pfc. Stigler, Samuel M.  
T/Sgt. Stopka, John  
Pfc. Storer, Boyd N.  
S/Sgt. Stout, Lonzie J.  
Pvt. Strickland, Fred G.  
Pvt. Strouf, Robert C.  
Pfc. Sulatycki, Roland R.  
Pfc. Swinney, Cleatus L.  
S/Sgt. Szmanda, Henry

Pvt. Tapani, Arthur J.  
Pvt. Tatum, Herbert L.  
Pfc. Taxacher, James E.  
Pvt. Terrio, Robert L.  
2nd Lt. Terry, James A.  
2nd Lt. Theis, Harold J.  
Pvt. Thom, Arthur L.  
Pfc. Thoma, Regis J.  
Pfc. Thomas, Donald F.  
S/Sgt. Thomas, George D.  
Pvt. Thomas, Harold L.  
Sgt. Thompson, Edwin S.  
Pfc. Thompson, Jack W.  
Pfc. Thompson, James R.  
Pfc. Thompson, Posey C.  
Pvt. Tirone, Michael J.  
T/Sgt. Towne, George D.  
Pvt. Trammell, James  
2nd Lt. Traphagan, John C.  
Pvt. Trimmer, Earl L.  
T/Sgt. Trolio, Arthur B.  
Cpl. Tudorovich, Robert D.  
1st Lt. Turner, Dennis T.  
S/Sgt. Tuschinski, William

Pvt. Urzetta, Joseph  
Lt. Col. Usher, John P.

Pfc. Van Deusen, Lyle D.  
Sgt. Vargo, Joseph  
Pfc. Vasko, Gustav S.  
Pfc. Vasquez, Apolonio P.  
Pfc. Vecchio, Pasquale C.  
Sgt. Vinar, Morris  
Sgt. Viola, Joseph J.  
Pfc. Visnosky, Thomas  
Pfc. Vrba, Edward

Cpl. Wade, Kenneth F.

Pvt. Waldon, Harold F.  
Pfc. Waldorf, Albert T.  
2nd Lt. Waldron, William N.  
Pfc. Waldrop, Wiley  
S/Sgt. Walker, William F.  
Pvt. Walte, Frederick L.  
Pfc. Wanless, Robert L.  
Pvt. Warner, Delos F.  
1st Lt. Warner, William A.  
S/Sgt. Warters, Charley  
S/Sgt. Weeks, Ralph A.  
2nd Lt. Wegner, Irvin H.  
Pvt. Weir, Edward A.  
Pvt. Wenger, Paul H.  
Pfc. Wertz, Blaine W.  
2nd Lt. Wetherell, Albert S.  
Pfc. Wetzel, Ivan S.  
Pfc. Whalen, George A.  
S/Sgt. Whately, Burrell O.  
Pfc. Whitley, Coy S.  
Sgt. Widman, William H.  
Pfc. Williams, Robert G.  
S/Sgt. Williams, Samuel  
Pfc. Williamson, Edwin M.  
Pvt. Wilson, Alonzo H.  
Pvt. Wilson, David T.  
Pvt. Wilson, Joseph J. Jr.  
Pvt. Wiltshire, Julius L.  
Pvt. Winters, William H.  
Sgt. Wirth, Elvin E.  
Pfc. Wise, James E.  
Pvt. Wohlfarth, Harry P.  
Pvt. Woodruff, Harley A.  
S/Sgt. Woodruff, Le Roy  
Sgt. Woodruff, Welborn M.  
Pvt. Woolever, Clifford H.  
Pfc. Workman, William G.  
1st Lt. Wright, Curtis M.  
Cpl. Wuertele, George T.

S/Sgt. Yerks, Harold L.  
Pvt. Young, Iras S.  
Pvt. Young, Jack

Pfc. Zavala, Ray C.  
Pfc. Zavarella, Antonio J.  
Pfc. Zelinski, Edward B.  
Pfc. Zientara, William J.  
T/Sgt. Zies, Robert J.

Pfc. Bajzik, John F.  
Pfc. Baker, Claude Jr.  
Pvt. Baker, Raymond A.  
Pvt. Batt, Stanley E.  
Pfc. Biet, Roger F.  
2nd Lt. Blair, Maurice L.  
Pfc. Borowiec, Joseph J.  
Pvt. Boseey, Walter C.  
Pvt. Breeden, Virgil C.  
Pvt. Brewer, Leroy  
Pvt. Burke, Michael

T/4 Caprara, Joseph J.  
Pfc. Caskey, William O.  
Pvt. Catalano, Leonard J.  
Pfc. Chan, Gum W.  
Pvt. Christian, Edward E.  
Pvt. Cole, James A.  
Pfc. Combs, Bert W.  
Pvt. Condon, Richard J.  
Pfc. Cowlombe, Robert D.

Pfc. Dean, Gordon R.  
Pfc. Delbo, Calvin C.  
Pfc. DeLucis, Ugo L.  
Pvt. DePrizio, Dante  
S/Sgt. DeVitto, Liberatoro  
Pfc. Devore, Howard G.  
Pvt. Dill, Dorris D.

Pfc. Gilbert, Richard L.  
Pfc. Grabzak, Ralph E.  
Pfc. Grazio, Joseph E.

Sgt. Hail, Raymond O.  
Pfc. Holmes, Bobby B.

Pvt. Kells, Robert E.  
2nd Lt. Kemper, Aubrey M.  
Pvt. Kennedy, Thomas S. Jr.  
Pfc. Kirby, Edward J.

Pvt. Kirsch, Julian J.  
Capt. Knotts, Joseph E.  
Pfc. Kunstmann, Otto

Pvt. Maher, Frederick J.  
Pfc. Marino, Salvatore J.  
Pvt. McCormick, William  
Pfc. Moore, Dennis A.

T/Sgt. Ocenosek, Russell F.  
Cpl. Ohs, John R.  
Pvt. Orlandi, Peter B.

Pfc. Parla, Antonio  
S/Sgt. Patrick, I. O.  
Pvt. Pavlinsky, Frank R.  
Pvt. Phenix, Roger M.  
T/Sgt. Proce, Benedict

2nd Lt. Quinn, Max E.

Pfc. Robicheaux, Murray P.  
Pfc. Robochik, John  
Pfc. Rudgers, Raymond P.

Pfc. Salsgiver, Joe B.  
Pfc. Schermerhorn, Robert W.  
Pvt. Schmidt, Walter J.  
Pvt. Seaward, Frederick  
Pvt. Sellers, Johnie J.  
Pfc. Shaffer, John D.  
Pfc. Slaven, John E.  
Pfc. Smollock, Arnold R.  
Pfc. Sobolewski, William

Pvt. Tell, Gerald R.  
S/Sgt. Turner, Robert L.

S/Sgt. Vargonick, John B.

2nd Lt. Wolf, David A.

# Appendix 1

## BREAKDOWN OF CASUALTIES

4 July 1944 to 12 May 1945

<i>Companies</i>	K-I-A		M-I-A		W-I-A		TOTAL		N-B-C		1945
	Off	EM	Off	EM	Off	EM	Off	EM	Off	EM	
Hq	0	2	0	1	1	17	1	20	4	23	
Sv	2	2	0	0	1	14	3	16	6	28	
Cn	0	1	0	0	2	15	2	16	5	32	
AT	1	8	0	8	6	24	7	40	2	62	
Med	0	17	1	9	0	77	1	103	2	99	
Hq 1st Bn	2	12	0	0	4	32	6	44	6	63	
A Co	5	94	2	30	13	299	20	423	4	111	
B Co	1	73	2	47	6	223	9	343	3	267	
C Co	4	92	4	55	22	342	30	489	3	206	
D Co	1	41	0	0	9	128	10	169	6	92	
Hq 2nd Bn	0	8	0	1	4	34	4	43	2	40	
E Co	3	60	1	46	15	320	19	426	1	176	
F Co	3	60	0	17	10	251	13	328	3	181	
G Co	1	83	1	19	9	282	11	384	10	173	
H Co	0	17	1	11	6	93	7	121	1	79	
Hq 3rd Bn	1	7	0	4	5	44	6	55	3	40	
I Co	2	65	1	83	12	194	15	342	8	175	
K Co	4	65	0	20	10	260	14	345	2	216	
L Co	7	69	0	43	15	231	22	343	3	188	
M Co	2	31	1	9	3	102	6	142	3	112	
	39	807	14	403	153	2982	206	4192	77	2363	

K-I-A Killed in action  
M-I-A Missing in action  
W-I-A Wounded in action  
N-B-C Non-battle casualties

## Appendix 2

### DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

20 July 1944 to 18 September 1945

D.S.C.	Distinguished Service Cross .....	11
S.S.	Silver Star .....	211
B.S.	Bronze Star .....	543
S.M.	Soldier's Medal .....	6
D.S.C.	Distinguished Service Order (British) .....	1
D.C.M.	Distinguished Conduct Medal (British) .....	1
M.M.	Military Medal (British) .....	3
C.d G.	Croix de Guerre (French) .....	13

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

#### OFFICERS

##### *Colonel*

Beck, Thomas H.	S.S.	6 May 45
Ginder, Philip D.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Greer, Fielder P.	B.S.	25 Nov 44
Olmstead, Merritt E.	B.S.	29 Mar 45

##### *Lieutenant Colonel*

Bailey, Frederick J. Jr.	B.S.	24 Oct 44
Chapla, Benjamin C.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
	(cluster) B.S.	13 Oct 44
	(2nd cluster) B.S.	31 Oct 44
Hollingsworth, Clarence K.	S.S.	22 Sep 44
	C.dG.	21 Jan 45
	B.S.	26 Jan 45
	D.S.O.	8 Mar 45
Randolph, Thomas J.	B.S.	6 Dec 44
Regan, Edward J.	D.S.C.	26 Oct 44
	S.S.	16 Jan 45
Smith, Edgar M. (Post)	B.S.	26 Oct 44
	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Usher, John P. (Post)	S.S.	24 Oct 44
Ward, Donald R.	S.S.	4 Oct 44
	(cluster) S.S.	8 Oct 44
	C.dG.	29 Jan 45
Wilhm, Jack F.	B.S.	12 Oct 44
	S.S.	10 May 45

##### *Major*

Beckley, Harry A.	B.S.	14 Apr 45
Dughi, Louis J.	B.S.	4 Oct 44
	(cluster) B.S.	21 Apr 45
	S.S.	8 Jun 45
Harden, John H.	B.S.	7 Aug 44



Lowery, Thom R.	S.S.	6 Nov 44
Mayo, Joseph B.	B.S.	12 Oct 44
Wheeler, George C.	B.S.	7 Nov 44
Wyand, Preston W.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
(cluster)	B.S.	31 Oct 44

*Captain*

Amyx, James W.	B.S.	4 Nov 44
	S.S.	3 Jan 45
(cluster)	B.S.	12 Apr 45
Birge, Arthur B.	B.S.	21 May 45
Briel, Henry P.	B.S.	20 Oct 44
Burrows, Herbert E.	B.S.	30 May 45
Byars, Frank L.	B.S.	25 Oct 44
Churton, Daniel B.	B.S.	20 May 45
Cromwell, Joseph R.	B.S.	13 Aug 44
Culhane, Francis M.	B.S.	13 Jan 44
Danneman, Ernest F.	B.S.	24 Dec 44
Dry, Frederick A.	S.S.	9 Aug 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
	B.S.	25 May 45
Dunham, Charles F. (Post)	B.S.	11 Jan 45
	S.S.	25 Apr 45
Emerson, Phil S.	B.S.	7 Nov 44
(cluster)	B.S.	1 May 45
	S.S.	30 May 45
Engen, Millard O. <i>1910 1911</i>	S.S.	8 Sep 44
(cluster)	S.S.	5 Feb 45
Everet, Robert D.	B.S.	25 May 45
Hillman, Joseph C.	B.S.	5 Jan 45
Hilty, Robert L.	S.S.	23 Jan 45
Horowitz, Samuel	B.S.	30 Nov 44
(cluster)	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Ketcham, Frederick	B.S.	3 Apr 45
Leber, Eugene I.	B.S.	24 May 45
Longley, Alfred C.	B.S.	8 Sep 45
Mabry, Charles C.	B.S.	12 May 45
Markle, Raymond D.	B.S.	3 Apr 45
Murray, William M.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Patterson, Frederick A.	B.S.	19 Jan 45
Price, Arthur J.	S.S.	30 Nov 44
Prichard, Waldemore L.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Rigler, Ralph L.	B.S.	21 Apr 45
Rose, Norman J.	B.S.	4 Oct 44
Ross, George Jr.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Singleton, Joe B.	B.S.	1 Nov 44
Soldinger, Reuben J.	B.S.	1 Nov 44
Stauffer, Stedman P.	B.S.	20 Mar 45
Tate, George E.	B.S.	16 Jan 45
Tisdale, Charles F.	S.S.	13 Apr 45

	(cluster) S.S.	13 Apr 45
Weisman, Robert	S.S.	4 Oct 44
Wham, George S. Jr.	S.S.	25 Jul 44

*First Lieutenant*

Anderson, Norbet W.	B.S.	21 Apr 45
Arakelien, Arthur	S.S.	5 Jun 45
Baker, James E.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Beecher, Mathew J.	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Buffman, David J.	B.S.	22 May 45
Bush, Leonard J.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
	(cluster) B.S.	13 Feb 45
Byars, Warner S.	B.S.	9 Oct 44
Cahoon, Eugene C.	B.S.	25 May 45
Chastain, Kenneth L.	S.S.	16 Jan 45
Chivas, Norman J.	B.S.	1 Nov 44
Cincotta, Anthony P.	S.S.	25 Mar 45
Clinkscales, Ruben P.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Close, John H.	S.S.	25 Jul 44
Cohick, Earl F.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Cowden, Paul W.	D.S.C.	31 Mar 45
Cunningham, George M.	B.S.	14 Feb 45
Dillon, Wilbur S.	S.S.	8 Sep 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Dormer, Thomas L.	S.S.	5 May 45
	B.S.	13 May 45
Drastel, Eugene J.	B.S.	19 Jan 45
Ellis, Lawrence	B.S.	30 May 45
Fisher, Hugh	B.S.	30 Apr 45
Fuller, Samuel T. (Post)	S.S.	26 Oct 44
Gallagher, John B.	B.S.	30 May 45
Gallo, Louis S. (Post)	B.S.	23 Sep 44
Gawne, John O.	B.S.	9 Oct 44
Glogan, Donald	D.S.C.	28 Mar 45
Goss, Donald R.	S.S.	17 May 45
Greaves, Donald L.	S.S.	25 Aug 44
	(cluster) S.S.	13 Jan 45
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Hall, Carlson W.	S.S.	9 Aug 44
Hanson, Ranel W.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Harding, Edgar (Post)	B.S.	21 Feb 45
Hart, Edward P.	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Henderson, Theodore S.	S.S.	26 Oct 44
Henning, Bernard A.	B.S.	14 Feb 45
Hesterly, Harrell P.	B.S.	12 May 45
Hickey, Paul M.	B.S.	6 Jan 45
	S.S.	12 Mar 45
Hobbs, Francis K. (Post)	S.S.	4 Dec 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Hoffman, Howard	B.S.	12 Mar 45

Horn, Joseph C.	B.S.	5 Jan 45
Hutcheson, Frank E. Jr. (Post)	S.S.	10 Jan 45
Johnson, Lloyd C.	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Kennedy, Robert A.	B.S.	24 Mar 45
Kirst, Vincent J.	B.S.	8 Oct 44
Kleist, Harley E. (Post)	S.S.	5 Nov 44
Lambert, Norman W.	S.S.	25 Oct 44
	(cluster) S.S.	13 Jan 45
Land, Aubrey C.	B.S.	9 Nov 44
Lane, Joseph J. II	S.S.	17 Oct 44
	B.S.	11 Jan 45
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Lang, Richard J.	B.S.	1 May 45
Leising, Martin A.	B.S.	19 Oct 44
	(cluster) B.S.	20 Mar 45
Lettera, Alfred P. (Post)	B.S.	11 Jan 45
	S.S.	16 May 45
MacGregor, Harold E.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Maddock, Walter A.	B.S.	20 Mar 45
Martin, Albert O. (Post)	S.S.	24 Oct 44
McDonald, Robert A.	B.S.	19 Jan 45
McCollough, Robert	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Michell, Clyde E. (Post)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Morgan, George H.	B.S.	24 Apr 45
	(cluster) B.S.	3 Jan 45
	D.S.C.	9 Jun 45
Mosenteen, Wm. W.	S.S.	20 Jul 45
	B.S.	9 Jun 45
	D.S.C.	
Palmer, Edward D.	B.S.	24 May 45
Perry, Roy W.	B.S.	8 Sep 44
Petrick, Lawrence	B.S.	22 Sep 44
	(cluster) B.S.	11 Feb 45
Pryor, Wm. L.	D.S.C.	23 Oct 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Reynolds, James D.	B.S.	25 May 45
Rubink, John L.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Sanzi, Carlo C.	B.S.	25 Oct 44
Sebring, Mark E.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Shafran, Paul E.	B.S.	1 Apr 45
Sisk, Harold D.	B.S.	1 Apr 45
Slabe, Edward C.	B.S.	5 Apr 45
Slate, Francis T.	B.S.	14 Apr 45
	(cluster) B.S.	1 May 45
Sparrow, Merril E.	B.S.	12 Mar 45
Spurrier, Robert F.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
Stephan, Robert W.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
	B.S.	16 Jan 45
	(cluster) B.S.	30 Mar 45
Stevenson, Edward W. (Post)	S.S.	25 Feb 45

Stickells, Philip B.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Stuart, Leslie	B.S.	5 Apr 45
Sullivan, Joseph P.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Warner, William A. Jr. (Post)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Westoff, Merrill B.	B.S.	18 Apr 45
Willie, Raymond L.	B.S.	6 Apr 45

*Second Lieutenant*

Alexander, Carl H. (Post)	S.S.	26 Oct 44
Arrich, William H.	S.S.	13 Jan 45
Berry, Donald L. (Post)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Butler, Merle F.	B.S.	24 Apr 45
	S.S.	9 Oct 44
Cambell, George F. (MIA)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Cupps, Cecil C.	S.S.	12 Mar 45
Edmonson, James C.	S.S.	11 Jan 45
	B.S.	16 Jan 45
Greenleaf, George G.	S.S.	11 Feb 45
Hyman, Alvin	B.S.	13 Aug 44
	D.S.C.	6 May 45
Jarrett, John H.	B.S.	25 Mar 45
(cluster)	B.S.	1 May 45
Kraft, Allison F.	B.S.	12 Mar 45
Lynd, Lavern	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Martin, Joseph E.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
(cluster)	B.S.	18 Apr 45
Mooney, William F.	B.S.	24 Mar 45
Morgan, Oliver A.	B.S.	12 Mar 45
Niedbala, Edward J.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
O'Laughlin, Charles J.	S.S.	17 Oct 44
Paluzzi, Joseph E.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Raykowski, Henry A.	S.S.	12 Jan 45
Reed, Ernest L.	S.S.	17 Oct 44
Ridge, Thomas E. Jr.	S.S.	17 May 45
Rohn, George H.	S.S.	17 Oct 44
Seymore, Albert F.	B.S.	5 Feb 45
Snider, Thomas B.	S.S.	1 May 45
Stewart, Donald R.	S. S.	7 Apr 45
Theis, Harold J. (Post)	S.S.	23 Sep 44
Tice, Leon R.	S.S.	10 Apr 45
Tool, Lewis H.	B.S.	22 Oct 44
Vincent, Clyde D.	S.S.	7 Jun 45
	B.S.	23 Jan 45
Wegner, Irwin H. (Post)	S.S.	11 Apr 45
White, Larry	B.S.	5 Jun 45

*Chief Warrant Officer*

Sullivan, Sardis M.	B.S.	23 Dec 44
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*Warrant Officer Junior Grade*

Mackie, James	B.S.	26 Dec 44
Morrell, James Jr.	B.S.	24 May 45

## ADDITIONAL AWARDS

1st Lt. Coleman, John J.	S.S.	12 Sep 45
1st Lt. Cook, E. W.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
2nd Lt. Foley, David B.	B.S.	8 Sep 45
Capt. Gray, Frank O.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
1st Lt. Greason, Mike R.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
1st Lt. Hardy, Alexander Jr.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Maj. Lybrook, Robert C.	B.S.	8 Sep 45
Maj. Manzollillo, Russell J.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
1st Lt. McCleary, Dan O.	S.S.	12 Sep 45
1st Lt. Putman, George D.	B.S.	7 Sep 45
2nd Lt. Robert, A. (Post)	S.S.	31 Aug 45
1st Lt. Sisk, Harold D. (cluster)	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Capt. Slate, Francis T. 2nd (cluster)	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Capt. Tate, George E.	S.S.	12 Sep 45
Lt. Col. Ward, Donald R.	B.S.	12 Sep 45

## ENLISTED MEN

*Master Sergeant*

Albi, Frank P.	B.S.	24 Oct 44
(cluster)	B.S.	24 May 45
Ginter, Charles G.	B.S.	12 Oct 44
Holub, Thomas B.	B.S.	24 May 45
Metitich, Walter G.	B.S.	25 May 45
Shaffer, Ray K.	B.S.	11 May 45
Wojan, Robert	B.S.	12 May 45

*First Sergeant*

Allen, Dale W.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Anthony, Alvin H.	B.S.	23 May 45
Auchenbach, Harvey	S.S.	20 Jul 44
	B.S.	12 Aug 44
Bear, Robert E.	B.S.	12 May 45
Bilski, Stanley F.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Bohannon, Walter	B.S.	15 Feb 45
Callari, Mitchel S.	B.S.	7 Apr 45
Combs, Ross M.	M.M.	8 Mar 45
Fisher, J. C.	B.S.	12 Apr 45
Frank, William C.	B.S.	25 May 45
Gurka, Mitchel	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Heath, Vilias W.	B.S.	6 Jan 45
Jacobs, James E.	B.S.	7 Apr 45
Kelly, Philip J.	B.S.	25 May 45
Lee, Dominic	B.S.	24 May 45
Lombard, Richard J.	B.S.	25 May 45

Milks, Edward M.	B.S.	24 Mar 45
Morgan, George H.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Moss, Walter A.	B.S.	25 Apr 45
Reilly, James K.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Ryan, Thomas P.	B.S.	24 May 45
Wall, Andrew J.	B.S.	5 Jun 45

*Technical Sergeant*

Bishop, Frederick A. (Post)	S.S.	14 Aug 44
Byrne, George L.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Cantrell, Clyde	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Christison, Clarence C.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Cianciola, John A.	B.S.	24 May 45
Daniel, Thomas	B.S.	13 May 45
Eisfelder, Frederick J.	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Evans, David N.	B.S.	12 Feb 45
Fetcho, John M.	B.S.	23 May 45
French, Sidney M.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
	(cluster) B.S.	13 Apr 45
Frizelle, Delmer E.	B.S.	13 Apr 45
Gerling, Leo V.	S.S.	9 Aug 44
	B.S.	6 Jun 45
Haas, Eugene M.	B.S.	11 Feb 45
Hawley, James	S.S.	17 May 45
Hayden, Rowland	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Hayes, Kelly	S.S.	17 Mar 45
Hendrickson, Russell E.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
	(Post) B.S.	20 Mar 45
Jalicki, Henry M.	S.M.	22 Jun 44
Kiskiewicz, John S.	B.S.	17 Feb 45
Laycock, Theodore	B.S.	13 Aug 44
	(cluster) B.S.	27 May 45
Livingstone, Cecil W.	S.S.	22 Sep 44
Lockwood, Harold C.	S.S.	10 Jan 45
Lynn, Robert T. (Post)	S.S.	26 Oct 44
Martin, Joseph D.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Martin, Manuel	B.S.	23 Jan 45
McCarthy, Paul E.	B.S.	25 May 45
McGinsie, William C.	B.S.	7 May 45
Murphy, John P.	B.S.	19 Dec 44
O'Neal, Jessie W.	B.S.	23 Jan 45
Popp, Raymond W.	B.S.	20 Jul 44
Rupert, Buddy P.	B.S.	2 Jun 45
Scabery, Charles E.	D.S.C.	16 Jun 45
Schmidt, Charles N.	B.S.	30 May 45
Smith, Lawrence G.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
Smith, William R.	S.S.	13 Feb 45
	M.M.	8 Mar 45
	(cluster) S.S.	1 May 45
	(cluster) S.S.	7 May 45

Solak, Stanley S.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Speckin, William G.	B.S.	21 Apr 45
St. Andrew, Joseph W.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Towers, Maxwell E.	B.S.	4 Jun 45
Valdez, Jose	S.S.	8 Jun 45
Watkins, John E.	B.S.	23 Dec 44
West, Francis E.	B.S.	7 Jun 45
White, Herman D.	B.S.	13 Feb 45
Zeis, Robert J.	B.S.	6 Jan 45

*Staff Sergeant*

Barnum, Joseph E. (Post)	B.S.	26 Aug 44
Batt, Melville J.	B.S.	28 Apr 45
Bikley, Byron E.	B.S.	11 Feb 45
Bogle, Huston Jr.	S.S.	11 May 45
Borkowski, Alexander F. (Post)	S.S.	23 Sep 44
Boyden, Chester D.	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Brawner, Olice	B.S.	1 Jun 45
Bruce, Walter A.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
Bryson, Everett	B.S.	24 May 45
Buckley, Robert P.	B.S.	20 Jul 44
(cluster)		12 Mar 45
Burton, Robert W.	B.S.	1 Nov 44
Butcher, Leo E.	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Carpiaux, Joseph J. Jr.	S.S.	18 Apr 45
Cavanagh, Charles J.	B.S.	13 Aug 44
Choquette, Vincent A.	B.S.	24 Apr 45
D'Ambrosi, Aldo L.	B.S.	12 Mar 45
Daniel, Willard P.	B.S.	8 Apr 45
Deyo, Frank M.	B.S.	14 Apr 45
Dixon, Carletti R.	B.S.	21 May 45
Dombrowski, Benjamin F.	B.S.	30 May 45
Downs, Oscar E.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Droge, Klaus	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Drum, Raymond J.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
	S.S.	8 Oct 44
Duffin, Robert W.	S.S.	17 May 45
(cluster)	S.S.	13 Jun 45
Durfey, Melvin F.	S.S.	20 Jul 45
Elder, Calvin G.	S.S.	12 Apr 45
Ellis, Jim H.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Fegley, Kenneth C.	B.S.	14 Feb 45
Fisher, Robert C.	S.S.	19 Jan 45
French, Sidney M.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
(cluster)	B.S.	13 Apr 45
Frye, Carl B.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Gaca, Joseph W.	B.S.	25 May 45
Glover, Harold	B.S.	16 May 45
Gosnell, Kenneth A.	B.S.	30 May 45
Goudeau, Lester J.	B.S.	21 Apr 45

Gracey, Evrett L.	S.S.	17 Mar 45
Gregg, James J.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Guter, Steve J.	S.S.	16 Oct 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Hall, Head L.	S.S.	22 Aug 44
Harder, Edmund C.	S.S.	22 Oct 44
Hardy, John W.	S.S.	9 Oct 44
Harmon, William P.	B.S.	19 Mar 45
	S.S.	23 Mar 45
Harris, Earl	S.S.	7 May 45
Herr, Robert J.	B.S.	14 Mar 45
Hillhouse, Samuel J. (MIA)	S.S.	10 Jan 45
Hoffman, Francis X.	B.S.	16 Jan 45
Jones, Samuel R.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Kahn, Ervin	B.S.	24 May 45
Kaufman, Samuel	B.S.	15 Feb 45
King, Frederick J.	S.S.	8 Jun 45
Koppy, Warren J.	B.S.	21 Apr 45
Kvas, John J.	B.S.	6 Dec 44
Lamkin, Thomas E.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Lange, Wellpott H.	B.S.	2 Apr 45
Leavenworth, Robert P.	S.S.	1 May 45
Lee, Jewel D.	S.S.	12 May 45
Lorke, Ervin J.	S.S.	19 Jan 45
	M.M.	8 Mar 45
Lovich, George	B.S.	12 Feb 45
Machota, Stanley L.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Markus, Alfred H.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Martin, Emory L.	B.S.	13 Feb 45
McRay, Willis	S.S.	12 Mar 45
Mercurio, John A.	B.S.	20 May 45
Micielica, Edward	B.S.	24 May 45
Miller, Levy R.	S.S.	28 Apr 45
Mis, Frank J.	B.S.	30 May 45
Nooney, Patrick J.	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Norod, Samuel A. (Post)	S.S.	9 May 45
Orr, Sylvester M.	B.S.	19 Oct 44
Oxendine, Kenly	S.S.	19 Jan 45
Piccione, Louis F.	B.S.	14 Apr 45
Poeschl, Henry O.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
	(cluster) B.S.	13 Jan 45
Renz, Harry J.	S.S.	25 Mar 45
Rife, Jack S.	B.S.	1 Jun 45
Robertson, Grady	S.S.	22 Aug 44
Robinson, Harold E.	S.S.	8 Oct 44
Rolle, John A.	S.S.	22 Sep 44
Rossi, Fermo A.	B.S.	30 May 45
Schiffer, Roger A.	B.S.	25 Oct 44
Schweitzer, Robert E.	B.S.	4 Jun 44
Shupulski, Daniel F.	B.S.	20 May 45



Strunk, Aloysius W.	S.S.	1 May 45
Stubblefield, Lawrence D.	B.S.	19 Oct 44
Thomas, George D. (Post)	D.S.C.	17 Jun 45
Tidball, Maurice G.	B.S.	4 Jan 45
Tobias, George J.	B.S.	13 Feb 45
Troiano, Andrew	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Turk, Chauncey E.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Tyrna, Alvin	B.S.	7 Jun 45
Umrysh, Peter	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Van Veversluys, Orval O.	B.S.	25 May 45
Vreeland, Arthur J.	B.S.	11 Jun 45
Wainwright, Russell F.	B.S.	17 Feb 45
Wall, Andrew J.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Waneka, Wilbur N.	B.S.	25 May 45
Waters, John N.	B.S.	8 Sep 44
Weinert, John G.	B.S.	13 Apr 45
Westcott, Raymond W.	B.S.	28 Apr 45
Williams, Samuel (Post)	S.S.	24 Oct 44
Wilson, Albert E.	B.S.	2 Apr 45
Wright, Miles D.	B.S.	12 Aug 44

*Technician Third Grade*

Bishop, Ross O.	B.S.	26 Apr 45
Bozich, Walter	B.S.	24 May 45
Ennocenti, Victor J.	B.S.	24 May 45
Gauss, Charles W. (Post)	S.S.	25 Apr 45
Palumbo, Angelo F.	B.S.	20 May 45
Wojtczak, Stanley W.	B.S.	1 Jun 45

*Sergeant*

Barrett, Alba G.	S.S.	9 Oct 44
Baskin, Thomas H.	B.S.	13 Feb 45
Bean, Samuel A.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Beath, Jenus W.	B.S.	24 May 45
Belrose, Albert	S.S.	17 May 45
Brooke, Edward J.	B.S.	12 May 45
Byron, George R.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Carr, Ernest N. Jr.	B.S.	14 Mar 45
Carson, James R.	B.S.	24 May 45
Decker, Charles M.	S.S.	7 Aug 45
Dougherty, Calvin C. (MIA)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Ferguson, Walter N.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Flaherty, John F.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Foster, Ralph E.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Frost, Paul N.	B.S.	30 May 45
Garner, James A.	S.S.	12 Mar 45
Gemalsky, Kurt	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Grantski, Donald F.	B.S.	16 May 45
Gutt, John F.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Kasiczky, Andrew J.	B.S.	30 May 45

Kolbe, Warren T.	B.S.	24 May 45
Kosky, Julius J.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Lau, Mang J.	S.S.	28 Apr 45
Leonard, Joseph F.	S.M.	22 Jun 44
Loomis, Ronald N.	B.S.	12 Feb 45
Marke, Ernest B.	B.S.	10 May 45
Markovich, Mike	S.M.	22 Feb 45
Martin, Zebulon P.	S.S.	13 Aug 44
McMillian, Felix	S.S.	8 Oct 44
Mendiola, Curtis O.	S.S.	4 Oct 44
Muglia, John J.	S.S.	24 Apr 45
Mullin, John P.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Nesbit, John R. (Post)	S.S.	10 Feb 45
Newman, Wilson G. (Post)	S.S.	26 Oct 44
Peek, Richard M.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Price, Robert	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Rauch, John W. Jr.	S.S.	11 May 45
Ray, Doyle	B.S.	19 Jan 45
Reinick, John R.	B.S.	25 May 45
Richard, William F.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Sawdon, Wayne H.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Simonetti, John	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Smith, Fred J.	B.S.	4 Jun 45
Talbot, Norman L.	B.S.	4 Feb 45
Tolbert, Edd R.	B.S.	24 May 45
Turnabe, Benjamin J.	B.S.	29 Mar 45
Vinar, Morris (Post)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Vonglis, Harry N.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Walker, William F.	S.M.	22 Jun 45
Walkowitz, Mitchell J.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Yates, Andy R.	S.S.	18 Apr 45

*Technician Fourth Grade*

Cadger, Douglas G.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Carroll, Kennith	S.S.	18 Apr 45
Certain, Robert F.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Chaplan, Morris	B.S.	2 Jun 45
Clarke, William J.	B.S.	11 May 45
Conn, Arnold R.	B.S.	20 Jul 45
Dempsey, John P.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Desrosiers, Emil J.	B.S.	24 May 45
Federici, Silvio P.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Fountain, Oswald E.	B.S.	28 May 45
Gilmore, Gerald H.	B.S.	24 May 45
Hershbine, James W.	S.S.	24 Apr 45
Hertling, Martin C.	B.S.	24 May 45
Holloway, Theo B. Jr.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Hutchison, Carl S.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Inabinet, Henry L.	B.S.	26 Oct 44
Kile, Earl C.	B.S.	20 May 45

King, Frederick J.	S.S.	12 Aug 44
Lee, Richard G.	B.S.	3 Jan 45
Logan, Arthur H.	B.S.	30 May 45
Malczynski, Stanley G.	B.S.	1 Nov 44
Manos, George L.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
McCarron, Patrick J.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Palmer, John E.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Scaramuzzo, Anthony J.	S.S.	21 Apr 45
Scharmach, Theodore	B.S.	2 Jun 45
Waskiewicz, Williams J.	B.S.	6 Nov 44
Weidman, Lloyd E.	B.S.	26 Sep 44
	S.S.	7 Nov 44
Woida, Jerome B.	B.S.	24 Mar 45
Zachau, Robert E.	B.S.	25 May 45

*Corporal*

Addington, John F. Jr.	B.S.	25 May 45
Canone, Edward	B.S.	17 Feb 45
Clark, Sherwood J.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Daller, Earl F.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
French, Grover W. Jr.	B.S.	9 Mar 45
Graham, John M.	B.S.	25 Mar 45
Hale, William B. Jr.	B.S.	16 Apr 45
Holt, Arthur R.	B.S.	14 Mar 45
LaFlamme, Frank T.	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Lamie, Joseph V.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Mitchner, John D. (Post)	S.S.	25 Apr 45
Robertson, John W.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Sands, Joseph R.	B.S.	19 Jan 45
Sauer, Edwin C. Jr.	S.S.	23 Jan 45
Schmidt, Albert A. (MIA)	B.S.	9 May 45
Schneider, Michael A.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Shephard, Glenn H.	B.S.	1 May 45
Stansbury, Amos C.	B.S.	4 Jan 45
Taylor, James N.	S.S.	17 May 45
Viol, Donald W.	B.S.	13 May 45
White, Walter J.	B.S.	26 Apr 45
Wilterdink, Lloyd E.	B.S.	12 Jun 45
Zachan, Robert E.	S.S.	20 Aug 45

*Technician Fifth Grade*

Baird, John S.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Bathurst, Ira H.	B.S.	25 May 45
Besecker, David L.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Blood, Stanley L.	S.S.	18 Apr 45
Bononno, Mario	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Bowers, Lester G.	B.S.	15 Feb 45
Cardello, Carmine J.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Cox, Randolph	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Curry, Claude A.	B.S.	30 May 45

DeArmond, Frank	B.S.	24 May 45
Donnelly, Daniel F.	B.S.	16 Apr 45
Douglas, Dawson H.	B.S.	17 May 45
Dunnewin, Earl	B.S.	13 Jun 45
England, Lloyd M.	B.S.	24 May 45
Filanowski, Henry J.	B.S.	12 Aug 44
Fleming, Percy H.	B.S.	30 May 45
Fortin, Gerard	B.S.	25 Aug 44
Fulkrod, Herbert	B.S.	3 Apr 45
Gates, Samuel K.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Grube, John J.	B.S.	7 Dec 44
Hahner, Edward R.	B.S.	20 Mar 45
Halstead, Ben F. (Post)	S.S.	14 Aug 44
Hartmez, Michael	B.S.	19 Oct 44
Harvey, Spencer	B.S.	2 Jun 45
Heinecke, Harry A.	B.S.	20 Aug 44
	(cluster) B.S.	6 Jan 45
Hewson, Oland C.	B.S.	8 Sep 44
Higbie, Edwin L.	B.S.	28 May 45
Hinman, Edward T.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Hunt, Thomas H.	B.S.	13 Jan 45
Ingram, Thomas J.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Jenkins, Ernest E.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Kapeluck, John	B.S.	24 May 45
Kee, Samuel J.	B.S.	7 Dec 44
Kurowski, Joseph T.	B.S.	20 Jul 44
Layton, Alva S.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Lee, Robert C.	B.S.	12 Feb 45
Martin, James R.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Mathes, Herbert J.	B.S.	3 Apr 45
McRoy, Robert D.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Miller, Laurence (Post)	B.S.	6 Oct 44
Minarovich, Michael E.	S.S.	13 Apr 45
Mitroke, Michael	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Pasi, Louis	B.S.	25 May 45
Phetteplace, Charles E.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Raines, Percy A.	B.S.	7 Dec 44
Ragan, John T.	B.S.	14 Apr 45
Ratesic, Joseph	B.S.	14 Feb 45
Rosenthal, Val	B.S.	24 Apr 45
Slater, Thomas L.	B.S.	30 May 45
Smullens, Everett J.	B.S.	27 May 45
Spronk, Robert D.	B.S.	25 May 45
Thomas, Allen G.	B.S.	28 May 45
Thompson, Donald R.	B.S.	23 Dec 44
Uraskavich, Samuel	B.S.	30 May 45
Walbert, Bruce E.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Welhouse, Harry F.	B.S.	24 May 45
Witzigman, Robert M.	B.S.	17 May 45



*Private First Class*

Arend, Norman F.	S.S.	7 Jun 45
Arnold, Fred C.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Bailey, Joseph J. P.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Bailey, Myron J.	B.S.	19 Jan 45
Baker, Claude Jr. (Post)	S.S.	14 Aug 44
Barnes, Earl E.	B.S.	17 Feb 45
	(cluster) B.S.	12 Sep 45
Barrett, Edward A.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Beall, Morris	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Bracconeri, Edward	B.S.	3 May 45
Brewer, Vernie J. (Post)	S.S.	9 May 45
Brock-Jones, Francis P.	B.S.	17 Mar 45
Byrnes, Richard A.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Capps, Paul T.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Carlucci, Peter A.	B.S.	17 Mar 45
Carpenter, George W.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Carver, James E. (Post)	B.S.	20 Mar 45
Cizick, Alexander	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Clum, Isaac N.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
Coniam, Harvey G.	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Cook, Ira E.	B.S.	16 Apr 45
Cook, William F.	B.S.	16 Apr 45
Craft, Ray E.	S.S.	9 Oct 44
Creighton, Henry	S.S.	25 Jul 44
Czarnicki, Paul	B.S.	30 May 45
D'Aloisio, Albert R.	B.S.	19 Mar 45
D'Augerear, Claude	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Davis, Charles G.	B.S.	25 Oct 44
Downs, Charles	S.S.	13 Mar 45
Downs, William M.	B.S.	20 Mar 45
Dunning, John R.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Ferrell, Paul G.	S.S.	11 May 45
Ferriman, Joseph E.	S.S.	11 Jan 45
Folb, Leonard	B.S.	20 May 45
Fonash, James A.	S.S.	30 May 45
Frank, Hans L.	B.S.	30 May 45
Gallo, John D.	B.S.	11 Jun 45
Gojkovich, George	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Graham, Andrew S.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Gray, Charles L.	S.S.	25 Oct 44
Gray, John F.	B.S.	22 Aug 44
Grazio, Joseph E. (Post)	S.S.	11 Aug 45
Grubel, Harry J.	B.S.	14 Mar 45
Hammond, Willie P.	B.S.	18 Apr 45
Harris, Cameron B.	S.S.	14 Apr 45
Hayes, Ernest V.	S.S.	1 Mar 45
Hazelton, John	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Hearnsberger, Iva V.	B.S.	24 Oct 44
Herrin, Berry R.	B.S.	11 Jun 45

Hoffman, Elmer E. Jr. (Post)	S.S.	10 Jan 45
Hovind, Eldon W.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Hutcheson, Robert W.	B.S.	25 Apr 45
Hyder, Warner	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Iulo, Amadeo	S.S.	8 Oct 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Johnson, David D.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Johnson, John H.	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Jones, Otis R.	B.S.	12 un 45
Kaufman, Jack	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Kempson, George A.	B.S.	20 Jul 44
Kershner, John R.	B.S.	8 Jun 45
Killoran, Howard E.	B.S.	21 May 45
Kozel, Joseph F.	B.S.	24 May 45
LaCassia, Frank N.	B.S.	1 Jun 45
Lafer, Lawrence H.	S.S.	1 Jun 45
Lammly, Erwin K.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Loomis, George J.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Loos, Joseph S.	S.S.	20 Jul 44
Luka, Edward H.	B.S.	24 May 45
Lumpkin, Kinness N.	B.S.	22 Sep 44
MacDonald, Richard C. (Post)	S.S.	24 Oct 44
Mantini, Augustine	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Martin, Charles H.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Mauler, Winfred C.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
McCallister, Paul C.	B.S.	25 Aug 44
Millard, Harry L.	B.S.	10 Jun 45
Monaco, Vito J.	B.S.	31 Oct 44
Moore, Gerald E.	B.S.	13 Aug 44
Moore, John E.	B.S.	20 Aug 45
Moran, Robert E. (Post)	B.S.	26 Oct 44
Morrison, Robert M. Jr.	S.S.	12 Aug 44
Muth, Paul H.	S.S.	1 May 45
Nemits, Michael	S.S.	12 Apr 45
Nicholas, James C.	B.S.	1 Jun 45
Noble, Leinster	S.M.	25 Aug 44
Pilat, Stanley M.	B.S.	13 Jun 45
Pilgrim, Ralph E.	S.S.	12 Apr 45
Platzman, Matthew	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Ramsey, Woodrow	B.S.	22 Aug 44
Reif, Jakob F.	B.S.	9 Jun 45
Renfro, Erve T. W.	B.S.	14 Mar 45
Russo, Anthony P.	B.S.	25 Aug 44
Sayer, Joseph J.	B.S.	1 Jan 45
Schafer, George C.	B.S.	30 Mar 45
Schwartz, Sol	B.S.	27 May 45
Shepard, Robert E.	B.S.	25 May 45
Snyder, Walter E.	B.S.	12 Feb 45
Storer, Boyd N. (MIA)	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Sutton, James R.	S.S.	13 Aug 44

Terraro, Tony	B.S.	4 Jun 45
Thomas, William E.	S.S.	31 Oct 44
Turner, Raymond L.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
VanderSypen, Ferdinand	S.M.	9 Oct 44
Visnosky, Thomas	B.S.	12 Aug 44
Walker, Harry R.	B.S.	8 Sep 44
Waller, Beverly A.	B.S.	13 May 45
Wanielista, Walter S. (Post)	D.S.C.	1 Dec 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45
Widman, William N.	B.S.	12 Aug 44
Wilcox, Amos S.	S.S.	7 Aug 44
Williams, Emit M.	B.S.	5 Jun 45
Wilson, Alexander E. Jr. (Post)	S.S.	21 Feb 45
Wolds, Peter P.	B.S.	25 May 45
Wong, Jee	S.S.	12 Mar 45
Wright, Wallace C.	B.S.	19 Mar 45
Zingale, Leo T.	D.S.C.	22 Sep 44
	D.C.M.	22 Dec 44
	C.dG.	25 Jan 45

*Private*

Allen, Bryon B.	B.S.	24 Oct 44
Barrett, Robert M. (Post)	S.S.	5 Nov 44
Barich, John	B.S.	19 Oct 44
Bartlett, Charles L.	S.S.	19 Mar 45
Bryon, John T.	S.S.	4 Nov 44
Canterbury, Reginald	B.S.	7 Aug 44
Daly, Joseph M.	B.S.	16 Jan 45
Friese, Julius J. (Post)	B.S.	10 Feb 45
Giordano, Dominick (Post)	S.S.	10 Jan 45
Glaspell, Fred E.	S.S.	2 Jan 45
Kelley, John R.	B.S.	12 Mar 45
Maher, Frederic J. (Post)	B.S.	10 Feb 45
McLean, Robert J. (MIA)	S.S.	25 Apr 45
Pelt, Raymond	S.S.	9 Aug 44
	B.S.	22 Sep 44
Ritchie, Murray P. Jr.	B.S.	11 Jan 45
Seligman, Robert N. (Post)	S.S.	5 Nov 44
St. Andrew, Joseph W.	B.S.	3 Oct 44
Stein, Frederick J.	B.S.	22 Oct 44
Wilson, David T. (Post)	B.S.	10 Feb 45

## ADDITIONAL AWARDS

*First Sergeant*

Byrne, Thomas F.	B.S.	5 Sep 45
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*Technical Sergeant*

Churchill, Lindley V.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Jenkins, Zeb V.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Kaufman, Samuel	S.S.	8 Sep 45

Landzert, Joseph	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Sullivan, Paul J.	B.S.	5 Sep 45

*Staff Sergeant*

Allen, William A.	B.S.	7 Sep 45
Aneda, Charles F.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Bilyeu, W. G.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Carlile, Clayton	S.S.	1 Sep 45
DeForrest, Bruce E.	B.S.	1 Sep 45
DeFranco, Pat J.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Fisher, James O.	B.S.	5 Sep 45
Flaherty, John S.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Gloria, Louis J.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Goddard, John A.	B.S.	8 Sep 45
Goodman, Marvin L.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Hunek, Andrew M.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Inman, Ernest S. (Post)	S.S.	31 Aug 45
Kluba, Joe W.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Lawson, Thomas	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Rothenburg, Alfred	B.S.	8 Sep 45
Smotherman, Fred H.	S.S.	8 Sep 45
White, Richard J.	B.S.	5 Sep 45
Zhunga, Peter S.	B.S.	12 Sep 45

*Sergeant*

T/4 Barboza, James	B.S.	1 Sep 45
Beaumont, Loren L.	S.S.	12 Sep 45
Cervantes, Lawrence D.	S.S.	12 Sep 45
Cooney, Ed. C.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Kehne, Walter S.	S.S.	7 Sep 45
O'Gara, Emory M.	B.S.	7 Sep 45

*Corporal*

T/5 Burrell, Ken J.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Dyer, William E.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Heser, George H.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Lanie, Joseph V.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Sarver, William K.	B.S.	5 Sep 45
Saucedo, David G.	B.S.	12 Sep 45

*Private First Class*

Bailey, Joe J.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Boggett, Victor A.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Brines, Clint	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Carlson, Ernest C.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Cary, Donald G.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Downs, Cloyd A.	B.S.	13 Sep 45
Elder, Harry C.	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Freeman, Ernest W.	B.S.	1 Sep 45
Grobizna, Joe	B.S.	12 Sep 45
Mugerauer, Arthur	B.S.	13 Sep 45



## DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION

GENERAL ORDERS  
No. 32

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Washington 25, D.C., 19 March 1947

V. *BATTLE HONORS*. As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following unit is cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

The *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment*, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy from 1 to 6 December 1944 in Germany. On 1 December 1944, the *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment*, launched an attack in conjunction with other divisional units and advanced steadily against stiff enemy resistance. Two vicious enemy counterattacks failed to halt the battalion's forward movement and, subsequently, the objective was seized. The reserve company, attacked from the rear by strong hostile forces, fought desperately and repulsed the attack, suffering the loss of its commanding officer and an entire platoon. Isolated and cut off from adjacent units, the *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment*, repelled repeated counterattacks for a 2-day period and assisted the advance of friendly units on the flanks with heavy fire. On 4 December, the battalion launched a strong attack in the vicinity of Bergstein. This attack proved to be of material value to friendly armor which captured the town the following day. The *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment*, by expert supporting fires on the right flank, gave very valuable assistance in the capture of Bergstein. One of its companies, which followed the tanks into town, repulsed a severe counterattack on 6 December and inflicted such heavy losses that the enemy fell back in disorder. A fanatic counterattack was launched by the enemy, with innumerable foot troops following closely behind supporting tanks, against the battalion's positions. Courageously, the machine gunners and riflemen held their fire until the hostile force reached a position approximately 25 yards to their front. Devastating artillery, mortar, machine-gun, and small-arms fire was placed upon the enemy, resulting in 150 Germans killed and 35 captured. During the 6-day battle, the *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment*, suffered heavy casualties, but, displaying an indomitable fighting spirit, the officers and men held their ground and killed, wounded, or captured a total of 800 Germans. The extraordinary heroism, tenacity of purpose, and esprit de corps displayed by the personnel of the *3d Battalion, 28th Infantry*

*Regiment*, are worthy of the highest praise. (Par. 5, sec. IX, WD General Orders 26, 1945, is rescinded.)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER  
*Chief of Staff*

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
*Major General*  
*The Adjutant General*

# Commendations

HEADQUARTERS 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

*To the Officers and Men of the 8th Infantry Division:*

The proud record of the 8th Division in battle and service is unsurpassed.

You won your battles in the recent war by courage and by devotion; by the bravery of the men, and by the peerless example of the leaders.

With great pride in your accomplishments and with humility before the heroic self-sacrifice of the officers and men of this great Division, I subscribe myself

Yours very respectfully,

BRYANT E. MOORE  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.  
24 September 1945

HEADQUARTERS 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

APO 8, U. S. Army  
20 September 1944

## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the 8th Infantry Division

1. On 15 July 1944 I took the opportunity to compliment you on your conduct during the first few days that you were in combat. Today, a little more than two months from that date, I desire to again express to you my pride and congratulations on the remarkable job that you have accomplished during that period.

2. On 26 July your breakthrough against most determined resistance along the Ay River made possible the advance of two other infantry and one armored division, and started the Germans in headlong flight in that area. Since that date you have marched and fought your way

forward for 345 miles; captured one large city and numberless other towns; contributed largely to the capture of two important ports; captured 14,155 prisoners, including two division commanders, one of whom was the commander in chief of the Brest fortress; and inflicted other losses on the enemy totaling at least half that many more. The operations on the Crozon Peninsula were a military classic. Operating practically as an independent unit, with the efficient support of attached troops, your division, in a campaign lasting only five days, overran 50 square miles of as strongly organized territory as has ever been encountered in France, captured 6,761 prisoners and made possible the use of the great port of Brest by the American Army. You have won 6,740 awards for heroism and 8,158 infantrymen are new and proud wearers of the Combat Badge. One hundred and thirty individuals have been promoted for heroism on the battlefield. You are veterans, with a fighting spirit that nothing can stop.

3. After a period of relaxation and reequipment, we will move on to join our victorious comrades on other fronts. We will be in at the kill. The folks at home are watching you, and cheering you on. They are proud and happy at your success.

*D. A. STROH*  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS XVIII CORPS (AIRBORNE)  
OFFICE OF THE CORPS COMMANDER

APO 109, In the Field  
21 May 1945

SUBJECT: Service

TO: Major General B. E. Moore, Commanding 8th Infantry  
Division

1. During two of the final and decisive operations of United States forces in this theater in this war, the XVIII Corps has been privileged to share service with the 8th Infantry Division—in the destruction of enemy forces in the Ruhr Pocket and in the final forcing of the Elbe and advance to the Baltic.

2. In these operations, the 8th Infantry Division, in battle and out,



has turned in a superb performance. Its gallantry, soldierly conduct, and fighting spirit have been conspicuously superior. It is an honored privilege to enter the division's area, the atmosphere of which is at once felt.

3. For myself and for the entire staff of this Corps, I should like you and your division to know the pride we take in the service we have shared, and the hope we have of future service together.

*M. B. RIDGWAY*  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY GROUND FORCES  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

Washington 25, D.C.  
20 October 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

TO: Commanding General, 8th Infantry Division

For the splendid contribution to our glorious victory over the Nazis who enslaved Europe and threatened America's cherished way of life, the officers and men of the 8th Infantry Division merit the praises of a grateful nation. Your courage, sacrifice and staunch devotion to duty marked the Division's every achievement, both on and off the field of battle.

Skill and enterprise of the 8th Division accounted for the brilliant combat record written in France, Luxembourg, and Germany. The enemy time and again felt the 8th's unrelenting power on the Crozon Peninsula, in Hürtgen Forest, within the Reich itself. It is significant that the 8th took 316,000 prisoners in the months of combat.

At this time, with the 8th Division scheduled for inactivation, it is a proud privilege to commend you and your organization for your remarkable achievements, and to voice my sincere appreciation.

*JACOB L. DEVERS*  
General, U.S.A.  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS 6TH ARMORED DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

APO 256, U.S. Army  
22 August 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry

THROUGH: Commanding General, VIII Corps, APO 308, U.S. Army

1. The 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, under command of Lt. Col. Benjamin C. Chapla, was attached shortly after this command arrived in the Brest area and served as part of Combat Command A from August 9 to August 20, 1944. The battalion was initially charged with reconnaissance and occupation of an area essential for the protection of our artillery battery positions and artillery observation without which the mission of containing Brest could not have been successfully performed. The battalion, in conjunction with the 50th Armored Infantry Battalion, as part of Combat Command A, was continuously engaged with enemy outposts supported by guns from August 10 until its relief.

2. The battalion, under the energetic and courageous personal leadership of the battalion commander, performed splendid service throughout the period, and although confronted and, at times, practically surrounded by a tenacious and active enemy, successfully accomplished its mission.

3. I commend Lt. Col. Benjamin C. Chapla and the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, for their excellent services while attached to the 6th Armored Division, and extend to them the best wishes of the personnel of the 6th Armored Division for their continued success.

*R. W. GROW*  
Major General, U.S.A.  
Commanding

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS VIII CORPS, APO 308, U.S. Army, 25 August 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry.

THROUGH: Commanding General, 8th Infantry Division, APO 8, U.S. Army.

1. The Corps commander is pleased to note and transmit this letter and to add appreciation for your outstanding performance of duty which earned this commendation. The extraordinary leadership of the battalion commander together with the splendid service rendered by the officers and men of the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, was such as to bring credit upon themselves and their organization.

2. A copy of this commendation will be forwarded with the next efficiency report rendered on Lt. Col. Benjamin C. Chapla.

By command of Major General MIDDLETON:

*C. C. B. WARDEN*  
Colonel, A.G.D.  
Adjutant General





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# ROUTE OF THE 28TH INFANTRY IN THE ETO 1943-45





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